

**OWNER'S MANUAL**  
**MODEL NO. HD12538C**  
**12.5 HP 38 Inch**  
**Lawn Tractor**

**FILE COPY**

*Do Not Remove*

- Assembly
- Operation
  - Customer Responsibilities
    - Service and Adjustments
    - Storage
    - Troubleshooting
    - Repair Parts

For Parts and Service, contact our authorized distributor: call 1-800-849-1297  
For Technical Assistance: call 1-800-829-5886

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**WEED EATER<sup>®</sup> VIP<sup>™</sup>**



# SAFETY RULES



## Safe Operation Practices for Ride-On Mowers

**IMPORTANT:** THIS CUTTING MACHINE IS CAPABLE OF AMPUTATING HANDS AND FEET AND THROWING OBJECTS. FAILURE TO OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

### I. GENERAL OPERATION

- Read, understand, and follow all instructions in the manual and on the machine before starting.
- Only allow responsible adults, who are familiar with the instructions, to operate the machine.
- Clear the area of objects such as rocks, toys, wire, etc., which could be picked up and thrown by the blade.
- Be sure the area is clear of other people before mowing. Stop machine if anyone enters the area.
- Never carry passengers.
- Do not mow in reverse unless absolutely necessary. Always look down and behind before and while backing.
- Be aware of the mower discharge direction and do not point it at anyone. Do not operate the mower without either the entire grass catcher or the guard in place.
- Slow down before turning.
- Never leave a running machine unattended. Always turn off blades, set parking brake, stop engine, and remove keys before dismounting.
- Turn off blades when not mowing.
- Stop engine before removing grass catcher or unclogging chute.
- Mow only in daylight or good artificial light.
- Do not operate the machine while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Watch for traffic when operating near or crossing roadways.
- Use extra care when loading or unloading the machine into a trailer or truck.

### II. SLOPE OPERATION

Slopes are a major factor related to loss-of-control and tipover accidents, which can result in severe injury or death. All slopes require extra caution. If you cannot back up the slope or if you feel uneasy on it, do not mow it.

#### DO:

- Mow up and down slopes, not across.
- Remove obstacles such as rocks, tree limbs, etc.
- Watch for holes, ruts, or bumps. Uneven terrain could overturn the machine. *Tall grass can hide obstacles.*
- Use slow speed. Choose a low gear so that you will not have to stop or shift while on the slope.
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for wheel weights or counterweights to improve stability.
- Use extra care with grass catchers or other attachments. These can change the stability of the machine.
- Keep all movement on the slopes *slow* and *gradual*. Do not make sudden changes in speed or direction.
- Avoid starting or stopping on a slope. If tires lose traction, disengage the blades and proceed slowly *straight* down the slope.

#### DO NOT:

- Do not turn on slopes unless necessary, and then, turn slowly and gradually downhill, if possible.
- Do not mow near drop-offs, ditches, or embankments. The mower could suddenly turn over if a wheel is over the edge of a cliff or ditch, or if an edge caves in.
- Do not mow on wet grass. Reduced traction could cause sliding.
- Do not try to stabilize the machine by putting your foot on the ground.
- Do not use grass catcher on steep slopes.

### III. CHILDREN

Tragic accidents can occur if the operator is not alert to the presence of children. Children are often attracted to the machine and the mowing activity. *Never* assume that children will remain where you last saw them.

- Keep children out of the mowing area and under the watchful care of another responsible adult.
- Be alert and turn machine off if children enter the area.
- Before and when backing, look behind and *down* for small children.
- Never carry children. They may fall off and be seriously injured or interfere with safe machine operation.
- Never allow children to operate the machine.
- Use extra care when approaching blind corners, shrubs, trees, or other objects that may obscure vision.

### IV. SERVICE

- Use extra care in handling gasoline and other fuels. They are flammable and vapors are explosive.
  - Use only an approved container.
  - Never remove gas cap or add fuel with the engine running. Allow engine to cool before refueling. Do not smoke.
  - Never refuel the machine indoors.
  - Never store the machine or fuel container inside where there is an open flame, such as a water heater.
- Never run a machine inside a closed area.
- Keep nuts and bolts, especially blade attachment bolts, tight and keep equipment in good condition.
- Never tamper with safety devices. Check their proper operation regularly.
- Keep machine free of grass, leaves, or other debris build-up. Clean oil or fuel spillage. Allow machine to cool before storing.
- Stop and inspect the equipment if you strike an object. Repair, if necessary, before restarting.
- Never make adjustments or repairs with the engine running.
- Grass catcher components are subject to wear, damage, or deterioration, which could expose moving parts or all objects to be thrown. Frequently check components and replace with manufacturer's recommended parts, when necessary.
- Mower blades are sharp and can cut. Wrap the blade(s) in wear gloves, and use extra caution when servicing them.
- Check brake operation frequently. Adjust and service required.



Look for this symbol to point out important safety precautions. It means **CAUTION!!! BECOME ALERT!!! YOUR SAFETY IS INVOLVED.**



**CAUTION:** Always disconnect spark plug wire and place wire where it cannot contact spark plug in order to prevent accidental starting when setting up, transporting, adjusting or making repairs.

## WARNING

The engine exhaust from this product contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm.

**CONGRATULATIONS** on your purchase of a New Tractor. It has been designed, engineered and manufactured to give you the best possible dependability and performance.

Should you experience any problem you cannot easily remedy, please contact your nearest authorized service center/Department. We have competent, well-trained technicians and the proper tools to service or repair this tractor.

Please read and retain this manual. The instructions will enable you to assemble and maintain your tractor properly. Always observe the "SAFETY RULES".

MODEL  
NUMBER HD12538C

SERIAL  
NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF PURCHASE \_\_\_\_\_

THE MODEL AND SERIAL NUMBERS WILL BE FOUND ON A PLATE UNDER THE SEAT.

YOU SHOULD RECORD BOTH SERIAL NUMBER AND DATE OF PURCHASE AND KEEP IN A SAFE PLACE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

## CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES

Read and observe the safety rules.

Follow a regular schedule in maintaining, caring for and using your tractor.

Follow the instructions under "Customer Responsibilities" and "Storage" sections of this owner's manual.

## PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

HORSEPOWER:	12.5
GASOLINE CAPACITY AND TYPE:	1.25 GALLONS UNLEADED REGULAR
OIL TYPE (API-SF/SG):	SAE 30 (above 32°F) SAE 5W-30 (below 32°F)
OIL CAPACITY:	3.0 PINTS
SPARK PLUG: (GAP: .030")	CHAMPION RJ19LM STD 361458
VALVE CLEARANCE:	INTAKE: .005" - .007" EXHAUST: .009" - .011"
GROUND SPEED (MPH):	FORWARD: 1st 1.0 2nd 2.1 3rd 3.1 4th 4.0 5th 5.1 REVERSE: 1.6
TIRE PRESSURE:	FRONT: 14 PSI REAR: 12 PSI
CHARGING SYSTEM:	3 AMPS BATTERY 5 AMPS HEADLIGHTS
BATTERY:	AMP/HR: 25 MIN. CCA: 190 CASE SIZE: U1R
BLADE BOLT TORQUE:	30-35 FT. LBS.

**WARNING:** This tractor is equipped with an internal combustion engine and should not be used on or near any unimproved forest-covered, brush-covered or grass-covered land unless the engine's exhaust system is equipped with a spark arrester meeting applicable local or state laws (if any). If a spark arrester is used, it should be maintained in effective working order by the operator.

In the state of California the above is required by law (Section 4442 of the California Public Resources Code). Other states may have similar laws. Federal laws apply on federal lands. A spark arrester for the muffler is available through your nearest Sears Authorized Service Center/Department (See REPAIR PARTS section of this manual).

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## LIMITED WARRANTY

The Manufacturer warrants to the original consumer purchaser that this product as manufactured is free from defects in materials and workmanship. For a period of two (2) years from date of purchase by the original consumer purchaser, we will repair or replace, at our option, without charge for parts or labor incurred in replacing parts, any part which we find to be defective due to materials or workmanship. This Warranty is subject to the following limitations and exclusions.

1. This warranty does not apply to the engine, other than AYP manufactured transaxle/transmission components, battery (except as noted below) or components parts thereof. Please refer to the applicable manufacturer's warranty on these items.
2. Transportation charges for the movement of any power equipment unit or attachment are the responsibility of the purchaser. Transportation charges for any parts submitted for replacement under this warranty must be paid by the purchaser unless such return is requested by American Yard Products.
3. Battery Warranty: On products equipped with a Battery, we will replace, without charge to you, any battery which we find to be defective in manufacture, during the first ninety (90) days of ownership. After ninety (90) days, we will exchange the Battery, charging you 1/12 of the price of a new Battery for each full month from the date of the original sale. Battery must be maintained in accordance with the instructions furnished.
4. The Warranty period for any products used for rental or commercial purposes is limited to 90 days from the date of original purchase.
5. This Warranty applies only to products which have been properly assembled, adjusted, operated, and maintained in accordance with the instructions furnished. This Warranty does not apply to any product which has been subjected to alteration, misuse, abuse, improper assembly or installation, delivery damage, or to normal wear of the product.
6. Exclusions: Excluded from this Warranty are belts, blades, blade adapters, normal wear, normal adjustments, standard hardware and normal maintenance.
7. In the event you have a claim under this Warranty, you must return the product to an authorized service dealer. Should you have any unanswered questions concerning this Warranty, please contact:

American Yard Products  
Service Department  
P.O. Box 1687  
Orangeburg, SC 29116 USA

In Canada contact:  
American Yard Products  
1580 Trinity Drive, Units 5-8  
Mississauga, Ontario  
L5T 1L6

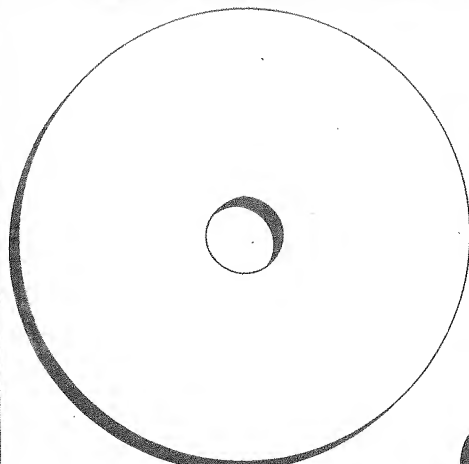
giving the model number, serial number and date of purchase of your product and the name and address of the authorized dealer from whom it was purchased.

THIS WARRANTY DOES NOT APPLY TO INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES AND ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES ARE LIMITED TO THE SAME TIME PERIODS STATED HEREIN FOR OUR EXPRESSED WARRANTIES. Some areas do not allow the limitation of consequential damages or limitations of how long an implied Warranty may last, so the above limitations or exclusions may not apply to you. This Warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other rights which vary from locale to locale.

This is a limited Warranty within the meaning of that term as defined in the Magnuson-Moss Act of 1975.

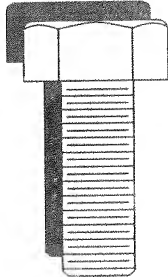
# CONTENTS OF HARDWARE PACK

## Parts Bag contents shown full size

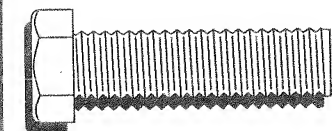


(1) Large Flat Washer

(1) Hex Bolt  
3/8-16 x 1



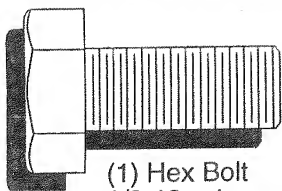
(1) Lockwasher 3/8



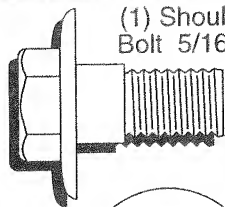
(1) Hex Bolt 5/16-18 x 1-1/4



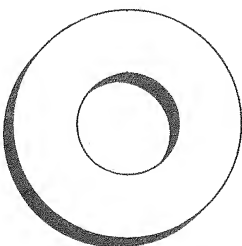
(1) Locknut 5/16-18



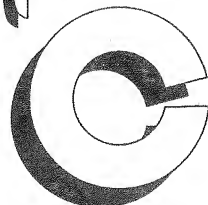
(1) Hex Bolt  
1/2-13 x 1



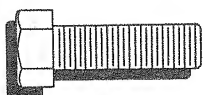
(1) Shoulder  
Bolt 5/16-18



(1) Washer 17/32 x 1-3/16 x 12 Gauge



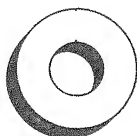
(1) Lock Washer 1/2



(2) Hex Bolts 1/4-20 x 3/4



(2) Hex Nuts 1/4-20

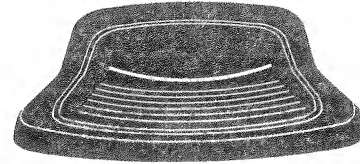


(2) Washers 9/32 x 5/8 x 16 Gauge

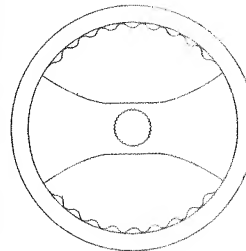


(2) Lock  
Washers  
1/4

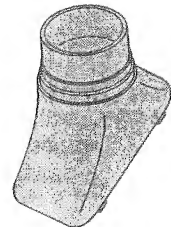
## Parts packed separately in carton



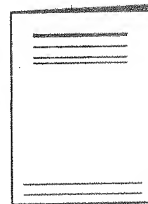
Seat



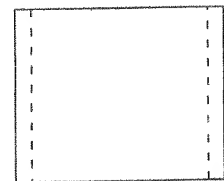
Steering  
Wheel



Steering  
Boot

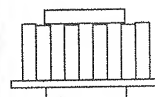


Manual

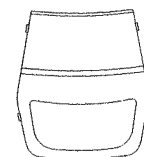


Parts Bag

## Parts bag contents not shown full size



Steering Wheel  
Adapter



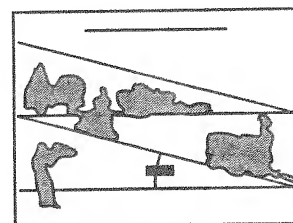
Steering  
Wheel  
Insert



Steering  
Extension  
Shaft



(2) Keys



Slope Sheet

# ASSEMBLY

Your new tractor has been assembled at the factory with exception of those parts left unassembled for shipping purposes. To ensure safe and proper operation of your tractor all parts and hardware you assemble must be tightened securely. Use the correct tools as necessary to insure proper tightness.

## TOOLS REQUIRED FOR ASSEMBLY

A socket wrench set will make assembly easier. Standard wrench sizes are listed.

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| (1) 9/16" wrench   | (1) 3/4" wrench     |
| (2) 7/16" wrenches | Tire pressure gauge |
| (2) 1/2" wrenches  | Utility knife       |

When right and left hand are mentioned in this manual, it means when you are in the operating position (seated behind the steering wheel).

## TO REMOVE TRACTOR FROM CARTON

### UNPACK CARTON

- Remove all accessible loose parts and parts cartons from carton (See page 6).
- Cut along lines on carton, from top to bottom, all four corners of carton and lay panels flat.
- Check for any additional loose parts or cartons and remove.

## BEFORE ROLLING TRACTOR OFF SKID

### ATTACH STEERING WHEEL (See Fig. 1)

#### ASSEMBLE EXTENSION SHAFT AND BOOT

- Slide extension shaft onto lower steering shaft. Align mounting holes in extension and lower shafts and install 5/16 hex bolt and locknut. Tighten securely.

**IMPORTANT:** TIGHTEN BOLT AND NUT SECURELY TO 18-22 FT. LBS TORQUE.

Place tabs of steering boot over tab slots in dash and push down to secure.

#### INSTALL STEERING WHEEL

Position front wheels of the tractor so they are pointing straight forward.

Slide steering wheel adapter onto steering shaft extension.

Position steering wheel so cross bars are horizontal (left to right) and slide inside boot and onto adapter.

Assemble large flat washer, 3/8 lock washer, 3/8 hex bolt and tighten securely.

Snap steering wheel insert into center of steering wheel.

Remove protective materials from tractor hood and grill.

**IMPORTANT:** CHECK FOR AND REMOVE ANY STAPLES IN SKID THAT MAY PUNCTURE TIRES WHERE TRACTOR IS TO ROLL OFF SKID.

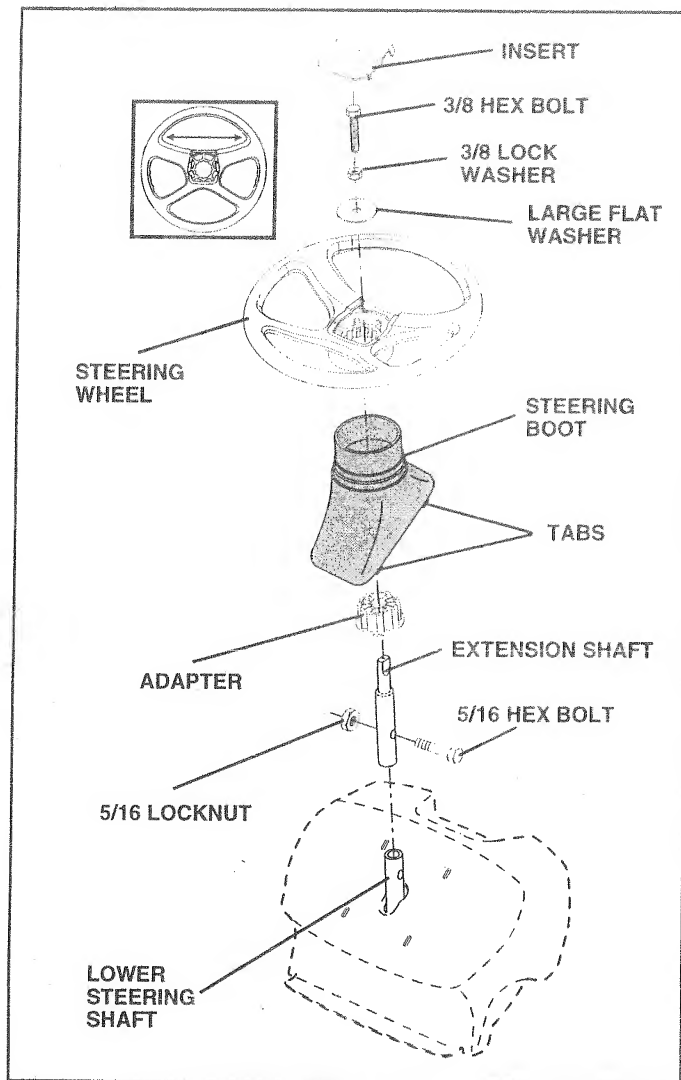


FIG. 1

## TO ROLL TRACTOR OFF SKID (See Operation section for location and function of controls)

- Press lift lever plunger and raise attachment lift lever to its highest position.
- Release parking brake by depressing clutch/brake pedal.
- Place gearshift lever in neutral (N) position.
- Roll tractor backwards off skid.
- Remove banding holding discharge guard up against tractor.

# ASSEMBLY

## HOW TO SET UP YOUR TRACTOR

### CONNECT BATTERY (See Figs. 2 and 3)



**CAUTION:** Do not short battery terminals by allowing a wrench or any other object to contact both terminals at the same time. Before connecting battery, remove metal bracelets, wristwatch bands, rings, etc.

**Positive terminal must be connected first to prevent sparking from accidental grounding.**

- Remove cardboard packing from seat pan and lift seat pan to raised position.
- Open battery box door.
- Remove terminal protective caps and discard.
- If this battery is put into service after month and year indicated on label (label located between terminals) charge battery for minimum of one hour at 6-10 amps.
- First connect RED battery cable to positive (+) terminal with hex bolt, flat washer, lock washer and hex nut as shown. Tighten securely.
- Connect BLACK grounding cable to negative (-) terminal with remaining hex bolt, flat washer, lock washer and hex nut. Tighten securely.
- Close battery box door.

Open battery box door for:

- Inspection for secure connections (to tighten hardware).
- Inspection for corrosion.
- Testing battery.
- Jumping (if required).
- Periodic charging.

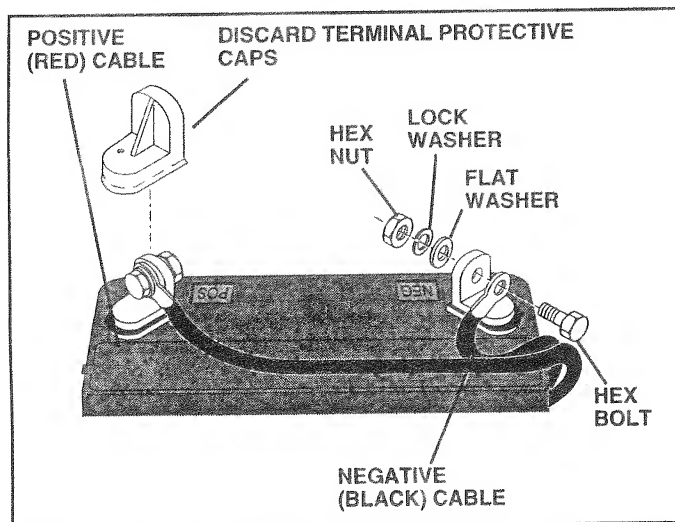


FIG. 2

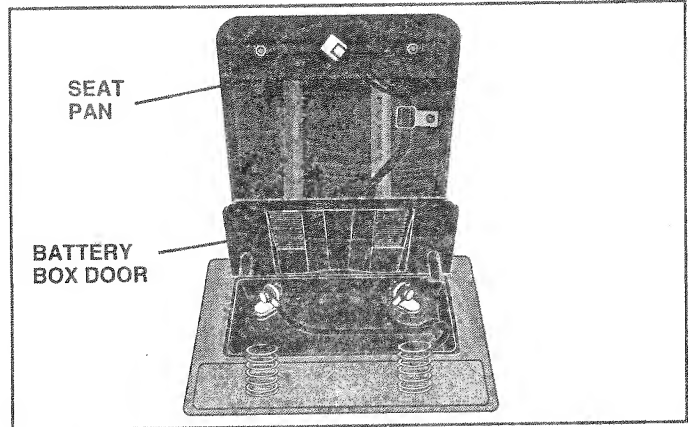


FIG. 3

### INSTALL SEAT (See Fig. 4)

Adjust seat before tightening adjustment bolt.

- Remove cardboard packing on seat pan.
- Place seat on pan and assemble shoulder bolt.
- Assemble adjustment bolt, lock washer and flat washer loosely. Do not tighten.
- Tighten shoulder bolt securely.
- Lower seat into operating position and sit on seat.
- Slide seat until a comfortable position is reached which allows you to press clutch/brake pedal all the way down (See Fig. 8).
- Get off seat without moving its adjusted position.
- Raise seat and tighten adjustment bolt securely.

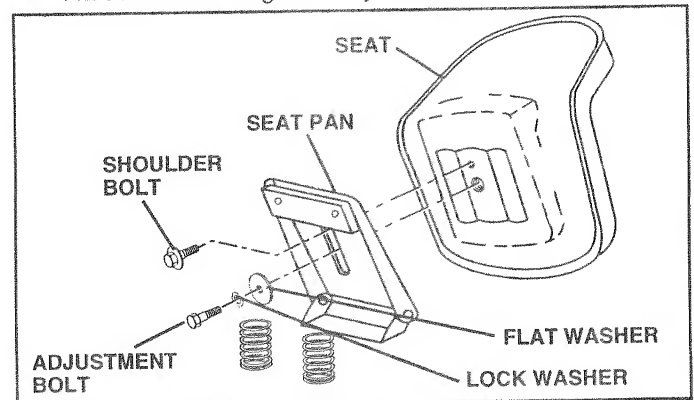


FIG. 4

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# ASSEMBLY

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## CHECK TIRE PRESSURE

The tires on your tractor were overinflated at the factory for shipping purposes. Correct tire pressure is important for best cutting performance.

- Reduce tire pressure to PSI shown in "PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS" on page 3 of this manual.

## CHECK DECK LEVELNESS

For best cutting results, mower housing should be properly leveled. See "TO LEVEL MOWER HOUSING" in the Service and Adjustments section of this manual.

## CHECK FOR PROPER POSITION OF ALL BELTS

See the figures that are shown for replacing motion and mower blade drive belts in the Service and Adjustments section of this manual. Verify that the belts are routed correctly.

## CHECK BRAKE SYSTEM

After you learn how to operate your tractor, check to see that the brake is properly adjusted. See "TO ADJUST BRAKE" in the Service and Adjustments section of this manual.

## ✓ CHECKLIST

*BEFORE YOU OPERATE AND ENJOY YOUR NEW TRACTOR, WE WISH TO ASSURE THAT YOU RECEIVE THE BEST PERFORMANCE AND SATISFACTION FROM THIS QUALITY PRODUCT.*

*PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING CHECKLIST:*

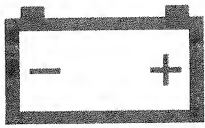
- ✓ All assembly instructions have been completed.
- ✓ No remaining loose parts in carton.
- ✓ Battery is properly prepared and charged. (Minimum 1 hour at 6 amps).
- ✓ Seat is adjusted comfortably and tightened securely.
- ✓ All tires are properly inflated. (For shipping purposes, the tires were overinflated at the factory).
- ✓ Be sure mower deck is properly leveled side-to-side/ front-to-rear for best cutting results. (Tires must be properly inflated for leveling).
- ✓ Check mower and drive belts. Be sure they are routed properly around pulleys and inside all belt keepers.
- ✓ Check wiring. See that all connections are still secure and wires are properly clamped.

*WHILE LEARNING HOW TO USE YOUR TRACTOR, PAY EXTRA ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT ITEMS:*

- ✓ Engine oil is at proper level.
- ✓ Fuel tank is filled with fresh, clean, regular unleaded gasoline.
- ✓ Become familiar with all controls - their location and function. Operate them before you start the engine.
- ✓ Be sure brake system is in safe operating condition.

# OPERATION

These symbols may appear on your tractor or in literature supplied with the product. Learn and understand their meaning.



BATTERY



CAUTION OR  
WARNING



REVERSE



FORWARD



FAST



SLOW



ENGINE ON



ENGINE OFF



OIL PRESSURE



CLUTCH



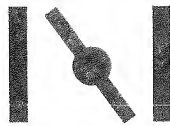
LIGHTS ON



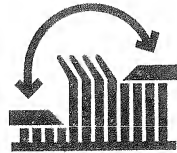
LIGHTS OFF



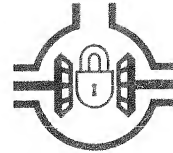
FUEL



CHOKE



MOWER HEIGHT



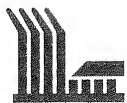
DIFFERENTIAL  
LOCK



PARKING BRAKE  
LOCKED



UNLOCKED



MOWER LIFT

**R**

REVERSE

**N**

NEUTRAL

**H**

HIGH

**L**

LOW



PARKING BRAKE



ATTACHMENT  
CLUTCH ENGAGED



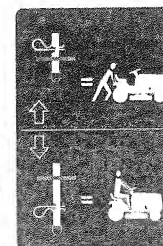
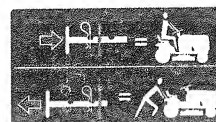
ATTACHMENT  
CLUTCH DISENGAGED



IGNITION



DANGER, KEEP HANDS AND FEET AWAY



HYDROSTATIC FREE WHEEL  
(Hydro Models only)



# OPERATION

## KNOW YOUR TRACTOR

### READ THIS OWNER'S MANUAL AND SAFETY RULES BEFORE OPERATING YOUR TRACTOR

Compare the illustrations with your tractor to familiarize yourself with the locations of various controls and adjustments. Save this manual for future reference.

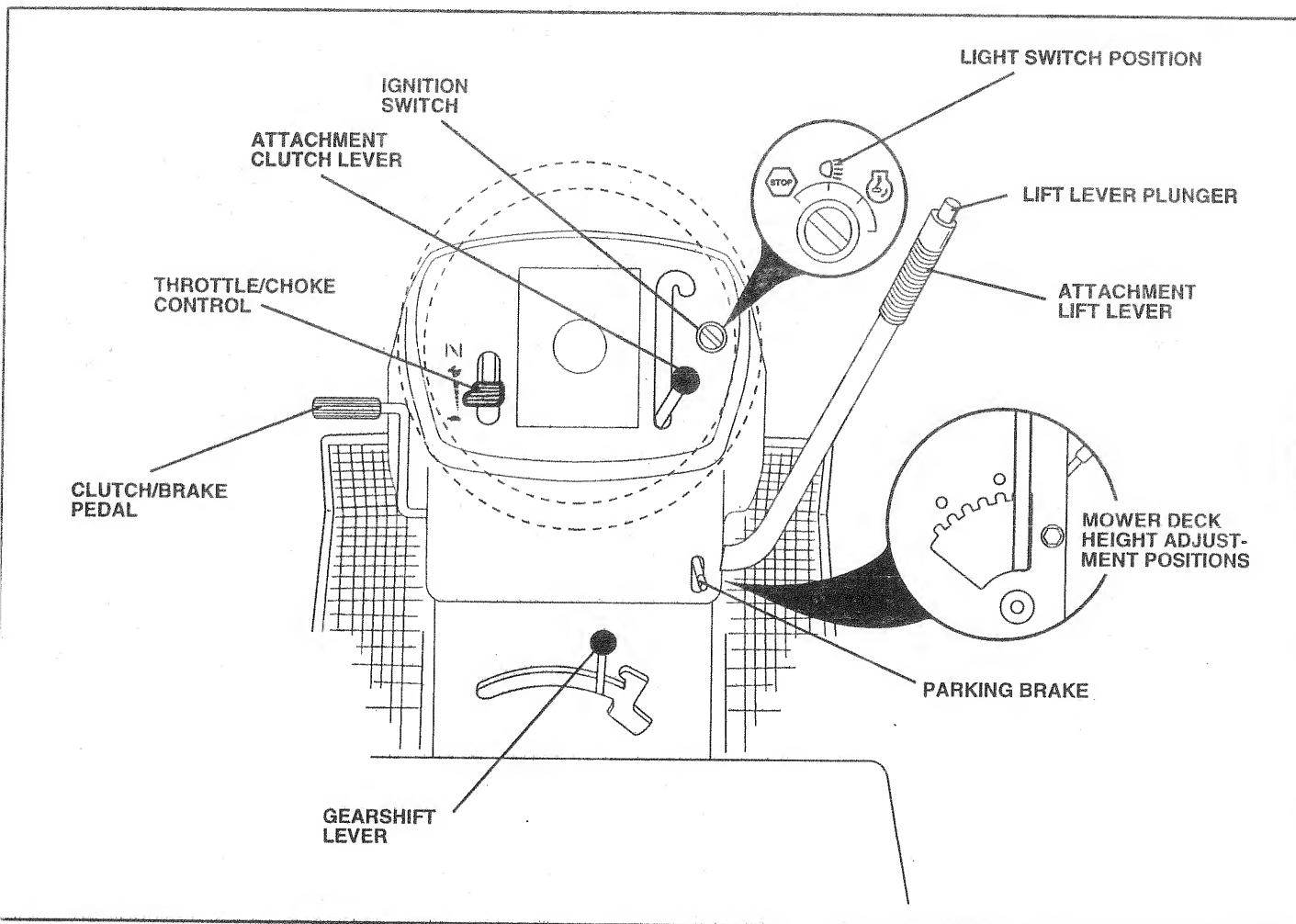


FIG. 5

Our tractors conform to the safety standards of the American National Standards Institute.

**ATTACHMENT CLUTCH LEVER:** Used to engage the mower blades, or other attachments mounted to your tractor.

**LIGHT SWITCH:** Turns the headlights on and off.

**THROTTLE/CHOKE CONTROL:** Used for starting and controlling engine speed.

**CLUTCH/BRAKE PEDAL:** Used for declutching and braking the tractor and starting the engine.

**PARKING BRAKE:** Locks clutch/brake pedal into the brake position.

**GEARSHIFT LEVER:** Selects the speed and direction of tractor.

**ATTACHMENT LIFT LEVER:** Used to raise, lower and adjust the mower deck or other attachments mounted to your tractor.

**LIFT LEVER PLUNGER:** Used to release attachment lift lever when changing its position.

**IGNITION SWITCH:** Used for starting and stopping the engine.

# OPERATION



The operation of any tractor can result in foreign objects thrown into the eyes, which can result in severe eye damage. Always wear safety glasses or eye shields while operating your tractor or performing any adjustments or repairs. We recommend a wide vision safety mask over the spectacles or standard safety glasses.

## HOW TO USE YOUR TRACTOR

### TO SET PARKING BRAKE (See Fig. 6)

Your tractor is equipped with an operator presence sensing switch. When engine is running, any attempt by the operator to leave the seat without first setting the parking brake will shut off the engine.

- Depress clutch/brake pedal into full "BRAKE" position and hold.
- Place parking brake lever in "ENGAGED" position and release pressure from clutch/brake pedal. Pedal should remain in "BRAKE" position. Make sure parking brake will hold tractor secure.

### STOPPING (See Fig. 6)

#### MOWER BLADES -

- Move attachment clutch lever to "DISENGAGED" position.

#### GROUND DRIVE -

- Depress clutch/brake pedal into full "BRAKE" position.
- Move gearshift lever to neutral (N) position.

#### ENGINE -

- Move throttle control to slow (🐢) position.

**NOTE:** Failure to move throttle control to slow (🐢) position and allowing engine to idle before stopping may cause engine to "backfire".

- Turn ignition key to "OFF" position and remove key. Always remove key when leaving tractor to prevent unauthorized use.
- Never use choke to stop engine.

**NOTE:** Under certain conditions when tractor is standing idle with the engine running, hot engine exhaust gases may cause "browning" of grass. To eliminate this possibility, always stop engine when stopping tractor on grass areas.



**CAUTION:** Always stop tractor completely, as described above, before leaving the operator's position; to empty grass catcher, etc.

### TO USE THROTTLE CONTROL (See Fig. 6)

Always operate engine at full throttle.

- Operating engine at less than full throttle reduces the battery charging rate.
- Full throttle offers the best bagging and mower performance.

### TO MOVE FORWARD AND BACKWARD (See Fig. 6)

The direction and speed of movement is controlled by the gearshift lever.

- Start tractor with clutch/brake pedal depressed and gearshift lever in neutral (N) position.
- Move gearshift lever to desired position.
- Slowly release clutch/brake pedal to start movement.

**IMPORTANT:** BRING TRACTOR TO A COMPLETE STOP BEFORE SHIFTING OR CHANGING GEARS. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL SHORTEN THE USEFUL LIFE OF YOUR TRANSAXLE.

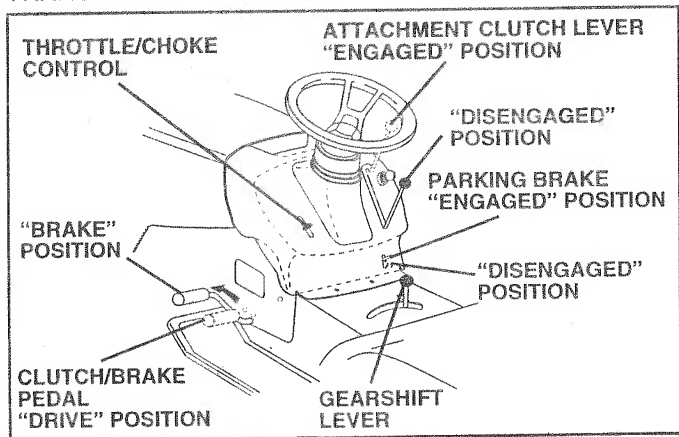


FIG. 6

### TO ADJUST MOWER CUTTING HEIGHT (See Fig. 5)

The position of the attachment lift lever determines the cutting height.

- Grasp lift lever.
- Press plunger with thumb and move lever to desired position.

The cutting height range is approximately 1-1/2 to 4". The heights are measured from the ground to the blade tip with the engine not running. These heights are approximate and may vary depending upon soil conditions, height of grass and types of grass being mowed.

- The average lawn should be cut to approximately 2-1/2 inches during the cool season and to over 3 inches during hot months. For healthier and better looking lawns, mow often and after moderate growth.
- For best cutting performance, grass over 6 inches in height should be mowed twice. Make the first cut relatively high; the second to desired height.

# OPERATION

## TO OPERATE MOWER (See Fig. 7)

Your tractor is equipped with an operator presence sensing switch. Any attempt by the operator to leave the seat with the engine running and the attachment clutch engaged will shut off the engine.

Select desired height of cut.

Start mower blades by engaging attachment clutch control.

TO STOP MOWER BLADES - disengage attachment clutch control.



**CAUTION:** Do not operate the mower without either the entire grass catcher, on mowers so equipped, or the discharge guard in place.

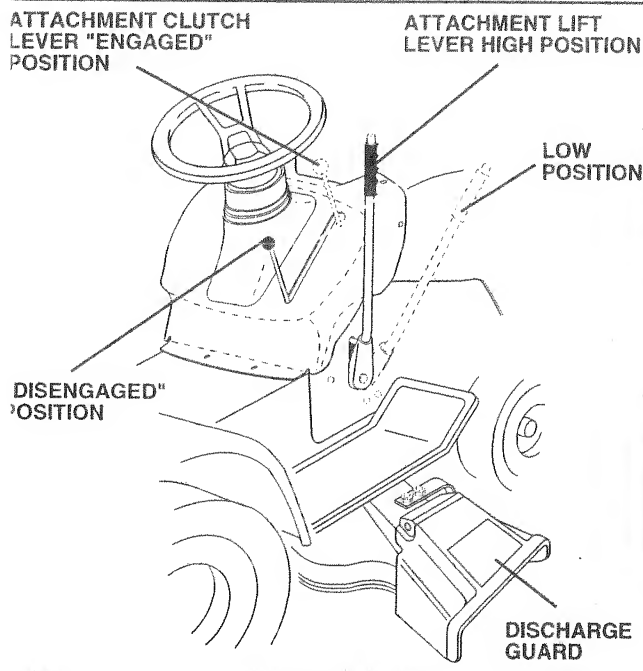


FIG. 7

## TO OPERATE ON HILLS



**CAUTION:** Do not drive up or down hills with slopes greater than 15° and do not drive across any slope.

Choose the slowest speed before starting up or down hills.

Avoid stopping or changing speed on hills.

If slowing is necessary, move throttle control lever to slower position.

If stopping is absolutely necessary, push clutch/brake pedal quickly to brake position and engage parking brake.

Move gearshift lever to 1st gear. Be sure you have allowed room for tractor to roll slightly as you restart movement.

To restart movement, slowly release parking brake and clutch/brake pedal.

Make all turns slowly.

## TO TRANSPORT

- Raise attachment lift to highest position with attachment lift control.
- When pushing or towing your tractor, be sure gearshift lever is in neutral (N) position.
- Do not push or tow tractor at more than five (5) MPH.

**NOTE:** To protect hood from damage when transporting your tractor on a truck or a trailer, be sure hood is closed and secured to tractor. Use an appropriate means of tying hood to tractor (rope, cord, etc.).

## BEFORE STARTING THE ENGINE

### CHECK ENGINE OIL LEVEL (See Fig. 12)

- The engine in your tractor has been shipped, from the factory, already filled with summer weight oil.
- Check engine oil with tractor on level ground.
- Remove oil fill cap/dipstick and wipe clean, reinsert the dipstick and screw cap tight, wait for a few seconds, remove and read oil level. If necessary, add oil until "FULL" mark on dipstick is reached. Do not overfill.
- For cold weather operation you should change oil for easier starting (See "OIL VISCOSITY CHART" in the Customer Responsibilities section of this manual).
- To change engine oil, see the Customer Responsibilities section in this manual.

### ADD GASOLINE

- Fill fuel tank. Use fresh, clean, regular unleaded gasoline with a minimum of 87 octane. (Use of leaded gasoline will increase carbon and lead oxide deposits and reduce valve life). Do not mix oil with gasoline. Purchase fuel in quantities that can be used within 30 days to assure fuel freshness.

**IMPORTANT:** WHEN OPERATING IN TEMPERATURES BELOW 32°F(0°C), USE FRESH, CLEAN WINTER GRADE GASOLINE TO HELP INSURE GOOD COLD WEATHER STARTING.

**WARNING:** Experience indicates that alcohol blended fuels (called gasohol or using ethanol or methanol) can attract moisture which leads to separation and formation of acids during storage. Acidic gas can damage the fuel system of an engine while in storage. To avoid engine problems, the fuel system should be emptied before storage of 30 days or longer. Drain the gas tank, start the engine and let it run until the fuel lines and carburetor are empty. Use fresh fuel next season. See Storage Instructions for additional information. Never use engine or carburetor cleaner products in the fuel tank or permanent damage may occur.



**CAUTION:** Fill to bottom of gas tank filler neck. Do not overfill. Wipe off any spilled oil or fuel. Do not store, spill or use gasoline near an open flame.

# OPERATION

## TO START ENGINE (See Fig. 6)

When starting the engine for the first time or if the engine has run out of fuel, it will take extra cranking time to move fuel from the tank to the engine.

- Sit on seat in operating position, depress clutch/brake pedal and set parking brake.
- Place gear shift lever in neutral (N) position.
- Move attachment clutch to "DISENGAGED" position.
- Move throttle control to choke (| \ |) position.

**Note:** Before starting, read the warm and cold starting procedures below.

- Insert key into ignition and turn key clockwise to "START" position and release key as soon as engine starts. Do not run starter continuously for more than fifteen seconds per minute. If the engine does not start after several attempts, move throttle control to fast (☛) position, wait a few minutes and try again. If engine still does not start, move the throttle control back to the choke (| \ |) position and retry.

## WARM WEATHER STARTING (50° F and above)

- When engine starts, move the throttle control to the fast (☛) position.
- The attachments and ground drive can now be used. If the engine does not accept the load, restart the engine and allow it to warm up for one minute using the choke as described above.

## COLD WEATHER STARTING ( 50° F and below)

- When engine starts, allow engine to run with the throttle control in the choke (| \ |) position until the engine runs roughly, then move throttle control to fast (☛) position. This may require an engine warm-up period from several seconds to several minutes, depending on the temperature.
- The attachments can also be used during the engine warm-up period.

**NOTE:** If at a high altitude (above 3000 feet) or in cold temperatures (below 32 F) the carburetor fuel mixture may need to be adjusted for best engine performance. See "TO ADJUST CARBURETOR" in the Service and Adjustments section of this manual.

## MOWING TIPS

- Tire chains cannot be used when the mower housing is attached to tractor.
- Mower should be properly leveled for best mowing performance. See "TO LEVEL MOWER HOUSING" in the Service and Adjustments section of this manual.
- Use the runner on the right hand side of mower as a guide. The blade cuts approximately an inch outside the runner (See Fig. 7).
- The left hand side of mower should be used for trimming.
- Drive so that clippings are discharged onto the area that has been cut. Have the cut area to the right of the machine. This will result in a more even distribution of clippings and more uniform cutting.
- When mowing large areas, start by turning to the right so that clippings will discharge away from shrubs, fences, driveways, etc. After one or two rounds, mow in the opposite direction making left hand turns until finished (See Fig. 8).
- If grass is extremely tall, it should be mowed twice to reduce load and possible fire hazard from dried clippings. Make first cut relatively high; the second to the desired height.
- Do not mow grass when it is wet. Wet grass will plug mower and leave undesirable clumps. Allow grass to dry before mowing.
- Always operate engine at full throttle when mowing to assure better mowing performance and proper discharge of material. Regulate ground speed by selecting a low enough gear to give the mower cutting performance as well as the quality of cut desired.
- When operating attachments, select a ground speed that will suit the terrain and give best performance of the attachment being used.

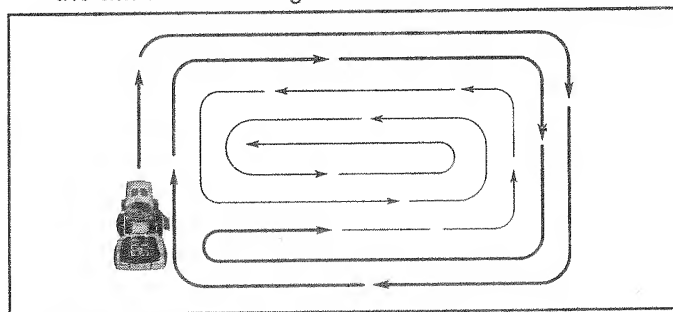


FIG. 8

# CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES

MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE			SERVICE DATES						
FILL IN DATES AS YOU COMPLETE REGULAR SERVICE			BEFORE EACH USE	EVERY 8 HOURS	EVERY 25 HOURS	EVERY 50 HOURS	EVERY 100 HOURS	EVERY SEASON	BEFORE STORAGE
TRACTOR	Check Brake Operation	✓	✓						
	Check Tire Pressure	✓	✓						
	Check for Loose Fasteners	✓				✓ <sup>7</sup>		✓	
	Sharpen/Replace Mower Blades			✓ <sup>4</sup>					
	Lubrication Chart			✓				✓	
	Check Battery Level/Recharge			✓ <sup>6</sup>					
	Clean Battery and Terminals			✓				✓	
	Check Transaxle Cooling			✓					
	Adjust Blade Belt(s) Tension					✓ <sup>5</sup>			
	Adjust Motion Drive Belt(s) Tension					✓ <sup>5</sup>			
ENGINE	Check Engine Oil Level	✓	✓						
	Change Engine Oil			✓ <sup>1,2,3</sup>				✓	
	Clean Air Filter			✓ <sup>2</sup>					
	Clean Air Screen			✓ <sup>2</sup>					
	Inspect Muffler/Spark Arrester				✓				
	Replace Oil Filter (If equipped)					✓ <sup>1,2</sup>			
	Clean Engine Cooling Fins					✓ <sup>2</sup>			
	Replace Spark Plug					✓	✓		
	Replace Air Filter Paper Cartridge					✓ <sup>2</sup>			
	Replace Fuel Filter						✓		

1 - Change more often when operating under a heavy load or in high ambient temperatures.

2 - Service more often when operating in dirty or dusty conditions.

3 - If equipped with oil filter, change oil every 50 hours.

4 - Replace blades more often when mowing in sandy soil.

5 - If equipped with adjustable system.

6 - Not required if equipped with maintenance-free battery.

7 - Tighten front axle pivot bolt to 35 ft.-lbs. maximum.

Do not overtighten.

## GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The warranty on this tractor does not cover items that have been subjected to operator abuse or negligence. To receive full value from the warranty, operator must maintain tractor as instructed in this manual.

Some adjustments will need to be made periodically to properly maintain your tractor.

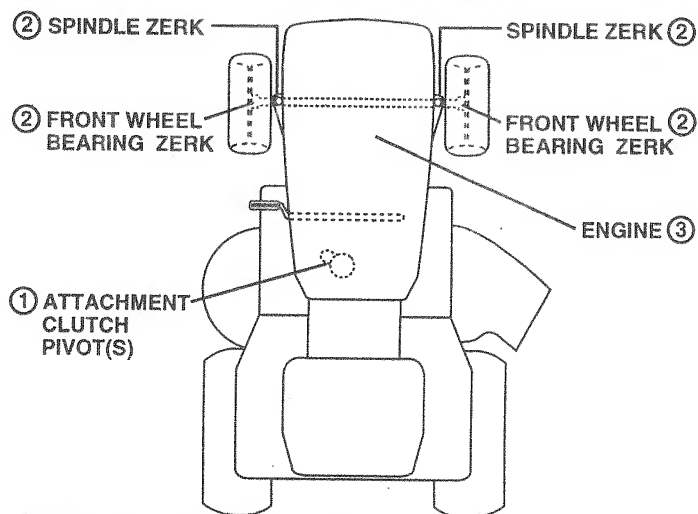
All adjustments in the Service and Adjustments section of this manual should be checked at least once each season.

Once a year you should replace the spark plug, clean or replace air filter, and check blades and belts for wear. A new spark plug and clean air filter assure proper air-fuel mixture and help your engine run better and last longer.

## BEFORE EACH USE

- Check engine oil level.
- Check brake operation.
- Check tire pressure.
- Check for loose fasteners.

## LUBRICATION CHART



① SAE 30 OR 10W30 MOTOR OIL

② GENERAL PURPOSE GREASE

③ REFER TO CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES "ENGINE" SECTION

**IMPORTANT:** DO NOT OIL OR GREASE THE PIVOT POINTS WHICH HAVE SPECIAL NYLON BEARINGS. VISCOUS LUBRICANTS WILL ATTRACT DUST AND DIRT THAT WILL SHORTEN THE LIFE OF THE SELF-LUBRICATING BEARINGS. IF YOU FEEL THEY MUST BE LUBRICATED, USE ONLY A DRY, POWDERED GRAPHITE TYPE LUBRICANT SPARINGLY.



# CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES

## TRACTOR

Always observe safety rules when performing any maintenance.

## BRAKE OPERATION

If tractor requires more than six (6) feet stopping distance at high speed in highest gear, then brake must be adjusted. (See "TO ADJUST BRAKE" in the Service and Adjustments section of this manual).

## TIRES

- Maintain proper air pressure in all tires (See "PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS" on page 3 of this manual).
- Keep tires free of gasoline, oil, or insect control chemicals which can harm rubber.
- Avoid stumps, stones, deep ruts, sharp objects and other hazards that may cause tire damage.

**NOTE:** To seal tire punctures and prevent flat tires due to slow leaks, tire sealant may be purchased from your local parts dealer. Tire sealant also prevents tire dry rot and corrosion.

## BLADE CARE

For best results mower blades must be kept sharp. Replace bent or damaged blades.

## BLADE REMOVAL (See Fig. 9)

- Raise mower to highest position to allow access to blades.
- Remove hex bolt, lock washer and flat washer securing blade.
- Install new or resharpened blade with trailing edge up towards deck as shown.
- Reassemble hex bolt, lock washer and flat washer in exact order as shown.
- Tighten bolt securely (30-35 Ft. Lbs. torque).

**IMPORTANT:** BLADE BOLT IS GRADE 8 HEAT TREATED.

**NOTE:** We do not recommend sharpening blade - but if you do, be sure the blade is balanced.

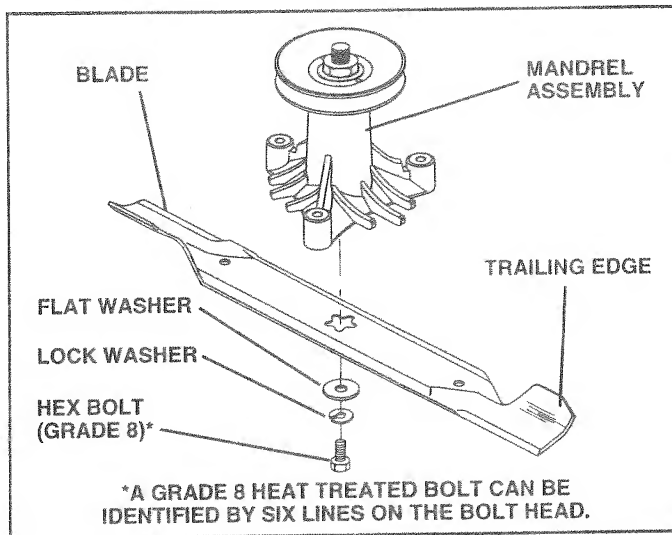


FIG. 9

## TO SHARPEN BLADE (See Fig. 10)

Care should be taken to keep the blade balanced. An unbalanced blade will cause excessive vibration and eventual damage to mower and engine.

- The blade can be sharpened with a file or on a grinding wheel. Do not attempt to sharpen while on the mower.
- To check blade balance, you will need a 5/8" diameter steel bolt, pin, or a cone balancer. (When using a cone balancer, follow the instructions supplied with balancer).
- Slide blade on to an unthreaded portion of the steel bolt or pin and hold the bolt or pin parallel with the ground. If blade is balanced, it should remain in a horizontal position. If either end of the blade moves downward, sharpen the heavy end until the blade is balanced.

**NOTE:** Do not use a nail for balancing blade. The lobes of the center hole may appear to be centered, but are not.

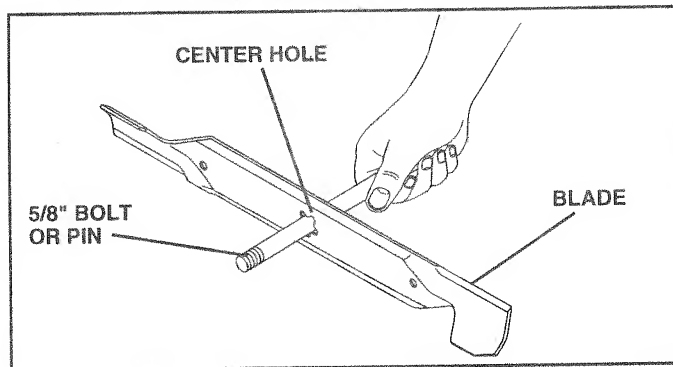


FIG. 10



# CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES

## BATTERY

Your tractor has a battery charging system which is sufficient for normal use. However, periodic charging of the battery with an automotive charger will extend its life.

- Keep battery and terminals clean.

- Keep battery bolts tight.

- Keep small vent holes open.

- Recharge at 6-10 amperes for 1 hour.

## TO CLEAN BATTERY AND TERMINALS

Corrosion and dirt on the battery and terminals can cause the battery to "leak" power.

- Open battery box door.

- Disconnect BLACK battery cable first then RED battery cable and remove battery from tractor.

- Rinse the battery with plain water and dry.

- Clean terminals and battery cable ends with wire brush until bright.

- Coat terminals with grease or petroleum jelly.

- Reinstall battery (See "CONNECT BATTERY" in the Assembly section of this manual).

## V-BELTS

Check V-belts for deterioration and wear after 100 hours of operation and replace if necessary. The belts are not adjustable. Replace belts if they begin to slip from wear.

## TRANSAXLE COOLING

Keep transaxle free from build-up of dirt and chaff which can restrict cooling.

## ENGINE

### LUBRICATION

Only use high quality detergent oil rated with API service classification SF, SG or SH. Select the oil's SAE viscosity grade according to your expected operating temperature.

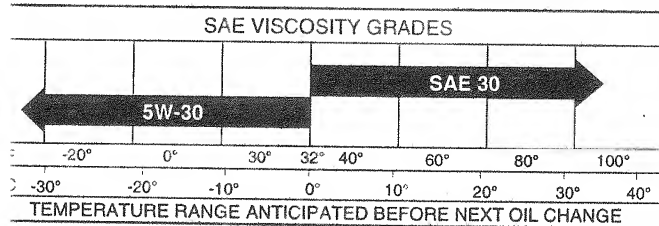


FIG. 11

**NOTE:** Although multi-viscosity oils (5W30, 10W30 etc.) improve starting in cold weather, these multi-viscosity oils will result in increased oil consumption when used above 32°F. Check your engine oil level more frequently to avoid possible engine damage from running low on oil.

Change the oil after every 25 hours of operation or at least once a year if the tractor is not used for 25 hours in one year.

Check the crankcase oil level before starting the engine and after each eight (8) hours of operation. Tighten oil fill cap/dipstick securely each time you check the oil level.

## TO CHANGE ENGINE OIL (See Figs. 11 and 12)

Determine temperature range expected before oil change. All oil must meet API service classification SF, SG or SH.

- Be sure tractor is on level surface.
- Oil will drain more freely when warm.
- Catch oil in a suitable container.
- Remove oil fill cap/dipstick. Be careful not to allow dirt to enter the engine when changing oil.
- Remove drain plug.
- After oil has drained completely, replace oil drain plug and tighten securely.
- Refill engine with oil through oil fill dipstick tube. Pour slowly. Do not overfill. For approximate capacity see "PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS" on page 3 of this manual.
- Use gauge on oil fill cap/dipstick for checking level. Be sure dipstick cap is tightened securely for accurate reading. Keep oil at "FULL" line on dipstick.

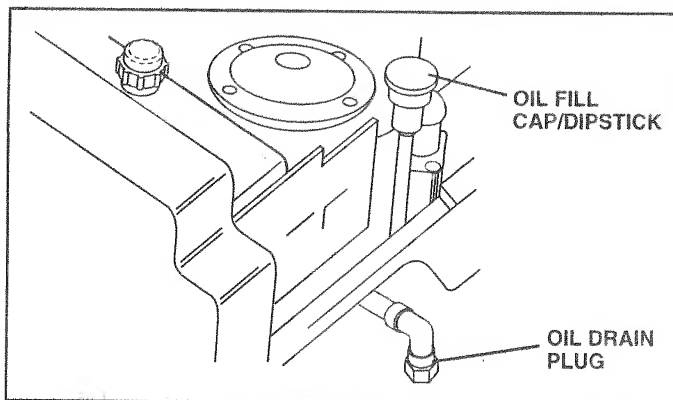


FIG. 12

# CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES

## AIR FILTER (See Fig. 13)

Your engine will not run properly using a dirty air filter. Clean the foam pre-cleaner after every 25 hours of operation or every season. Service paper cartridge every 100 hours of operation or every season, whichever occurs first.

Service air cleaner more often under dusty conditions.

- Remove knob(s) and cover.

### TO SERVICE PRE-CLEANER

- Slide foam pre-cleaner off cartridge.
- Wash it in liquid detergent and water.
- Squeeze it dry in a clean cloth.
- Saturate it in engine oil. Wrap it in clean, absorbent cloth and squeeze to remove excess oil.
- If very dirty or damaged, replace pre-cleaner.
- Reinstall pre-cleaner over cartridge.
- Reinstall cover and secure with knob(s).

### TO SERVICE CARTRIDGE

- Remove cartridge nut.
- Carefully remove cartridge to prevent debris from entering carburetor. Clean base carefully to prevent debris from entering carburetor.
- Clean cartridge by tapping gently on flat surface. If very dirty or damaged, replace cartridge.
- Reinstall cartridge, nut, pre-cleaner, cover and secure with knob(s).

**IMPORTANT:** PETROLEUM SOLVENTS, SUCH AS KEROSENE, ARE NOT TO BE USED TO CLEAN THE CARTRIDGE. THEY MAY CAUSE DETERIORATION OF THE CARTRIDGE. DO NOT OIL CARTRIDGE. DO NOT USE PRESSURIZED AIR TO CLEAN OR DRY CARTRIDGE.

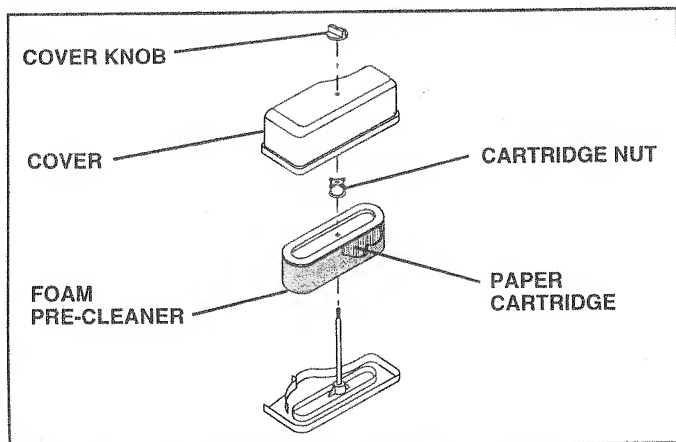


FIG. 13

## CLEAN AIR SCREEN (See Fig. 14)

Air screen must be kept free of dirt and chaff to prevent engine damage from overheating. Clean with a wire brush or compressed air to remove dirt and stubborn dried gum fibers.

## ENGINE COOLING FINS (See Fig. 14)

Remove any dust, dirt or oil from engine cooling fins to prevent engine damage from overheating.

- Remove screws from blower housing and lift housing and dipstick tube assembly off engine.
- Cover oil fill opening to prevent entry of dirt.
- Use compressed air or stiff bristle brush to thoroughly clean engine cooling fins.
- To reassemble, reverse above procedure.

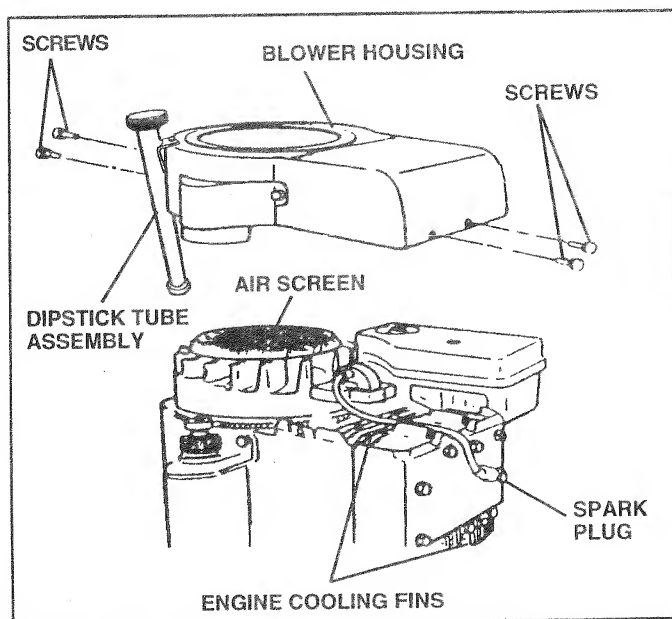


FIG. 14

# CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES

## MUFFLER

Inspect and replace corroded muffler and spark arrester (if equipped) as it could create a fire hazard and/or damage.

## SPARK PLUGS

Replace spark plugs at the beginning of each mowing season or after every 100 hours of operation, whichever occurs first. Spark plug type and gap setting are shown in "PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS" on page 3 of this manual.

## IN-LINE FUEL FILTER (See Fig. 15)

The fuel filter should be replaced once each season. If fuel filter becomes clogged, obstructing fuel flow to carburetor, replacement is required.

With engine cool, remove filter and plug fuel line sections.

Place new fuel filter in position in fuel line with arrow pointing towards carburetor.

Be sure there are no fuel line leaks and clamps are properly positioned.

Immediately wipe up any spilled gasoline.

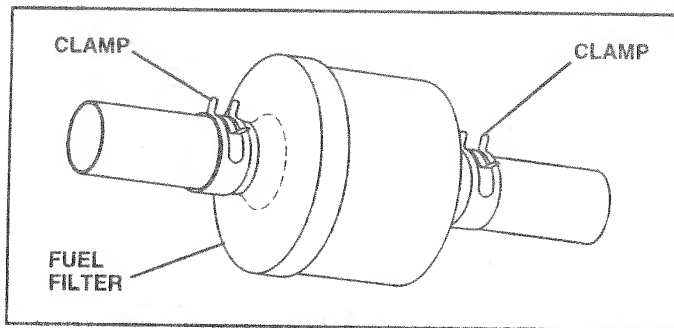


FIG. 15

## CLEANING

- Clean engine, battery, seat, finish, etc. of all foreign matter.
- Keep finished surfaces and wheels free of all gasoline, oil, etc.
- Protect painted surfaces with automotive type wax.

We do not recommend using a garden hose to clean your tractor unless the electrical system, muffler, air filter and carburetor are covered to keep water out. Water in engine can result in a shortened engine life.

# SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS

## CAUTION: BEFORE PERFORMING ANY SERVICE OR ADJUSTMENTS:



- Depress clutch/brake pedal fully and set parking brake.
- Place gearshift lever in neutral (N) position.
- Place attachment clutch in "DISENGAGED" position.
- Turn ignition key "OFF" and remove key.
- Make sure the blades and all moving parts have completely stopped.
- Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug and place wire where it cannot come in contact with plug.

## TO REMOVE MOWER (See Fig. 16)

Mower will be easier to remove from the right side of tractor.

- Place attachment clutch in "DISENGAGED" position.
- Move attachment lift lever forward to lower mower to its lowest position.
- Roll belt off engine pulley.
- Disconnect clutch rod from clutch lever by removing retainer spring.
- Disconnect anti-sway bar from chassis bracket by removing retainer spring.
- Disconnect suspension arms from rear deck brackets by removing retainer springs.
- Disconnect front links from deck by removing retainer springs.
- Raise lift lever to raise suspension arms. Slide mower out from under tractor.

**IMPORTANT:** IF AN ATTACHMENT OTHER THAN THE MOWER DECK IS TO BE MOUNTED ON THE TRACTOR, REMOVE THE FRONT LINKS.

## TO INSTALL MOWER (See Fig. 16)

- Raise attachment lift lever to its highest position.
- Slide mower under tractor with discharge guard to right side of tractor.
- Lower lift lever to its lowest position.
- Install mower in reverse order of removal instructions.

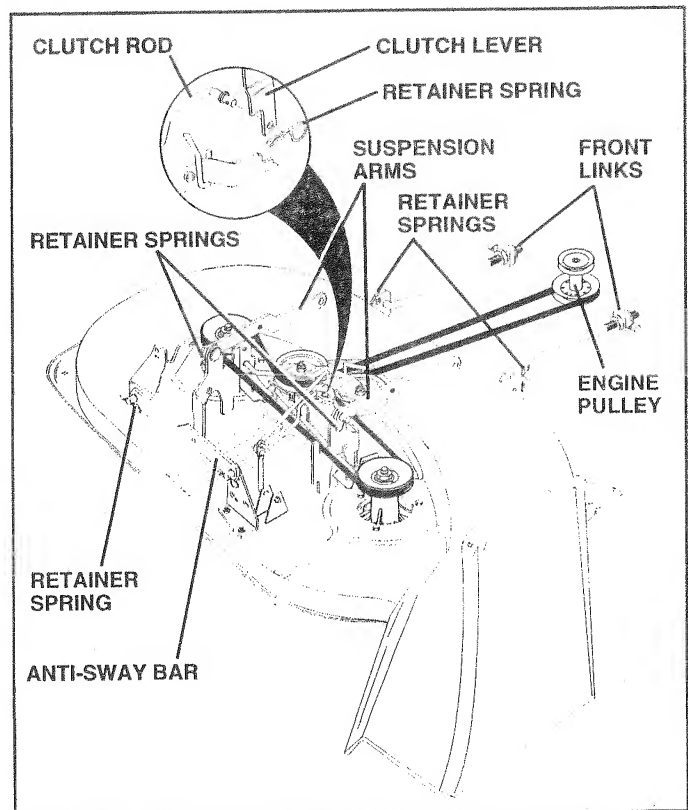


FIG. 16

# SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS

## TO LEVEL MOWER HOUSING

Adjust the mower while tractor is parked on level ground or driveway. Make sure tires are properly inflated (See PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS on page 3 of this manual). If tires are over or underinflated, you will not properly adjust your mower.

### SIDE-TO-SIDE ADJUSTMENT (See Figs. 17 and 18)

Raise mower to its highest position.

At the midpoint of both sides of mower, measure height from bottom edge of mower to ground. Distance "A" on both sides of mower should be the same or within 1/4" of each other.

If adjustment is necessary, make adjustment on one side of mower only.

To raise one side of mower, tighten lift link adjustment nut on that side.

To lower one side of mower, loosen lift link adjustment nut on that side.

**NOTE:** Three full turns of adjustment nut will change lower height about 1/8".

Recheck measurements after adjusting.

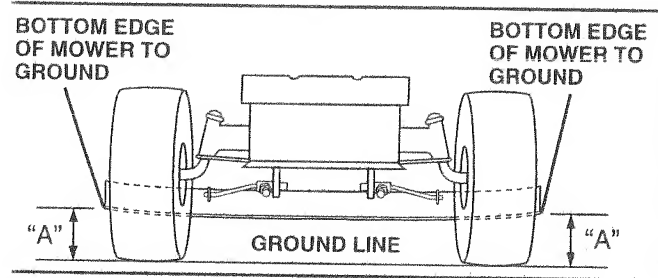


FIG. 17

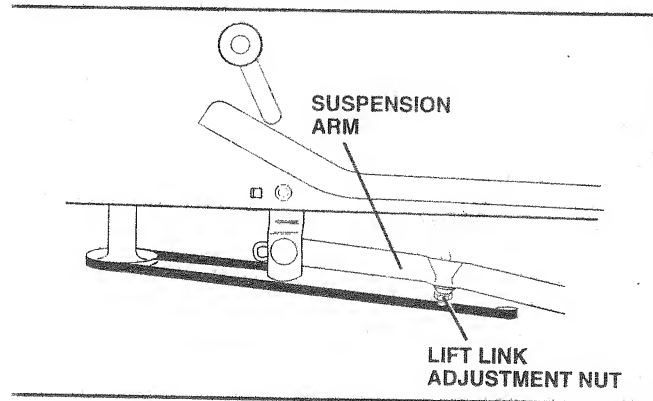


FIG. 18

### FRONT-TO-BACK ADJUSTMENT (See Figs. 19 and 20)

**IMPORTANT:** DECK MUST BE LEVEL SIDE-TO-SIDE. IF THE FOLLOWING FRONT-TO-BACK ADJUSTMENT IS NECESSARY, BE SURE TO ADJUST BOTH FRONT LINKS EQUALLY SO MOWER WILL STAY LEVEL SIDE-TO-SIDE.

To obtain the best cutting results, the mower housing should be adjusted so that the front is approximately 1/8" to 1/2" lower than the rear when the mower is in its highest position.

Check adjustment on right side of tractor. Measure distance "D" directly in front and behind the mandrel at bottom edge of mower housing as shown.

- Before making any necessary adjustments, check that both front links are equal in length. Both links should be approximately 10-3/8".
- If links are not equal in length, adjust one link to same length as other link.
- To lower front of mower loosen nut "E" on both front links an equal number of turns.
- When distance "D" is 1/8" to 1/2" lower at front than rear, tighten nuts "F" against trunnion on both front links.
- To raise front of mower, loosen nut "F" from trunnion on both front links. Tighten nut "E" on both front links an equal number of turns.
- When distance "D" is 1/8" to 1/2" lower at front than rear, tighten nut "F" against trunnion on both front links.
- Recheck side-to-side adjustment.

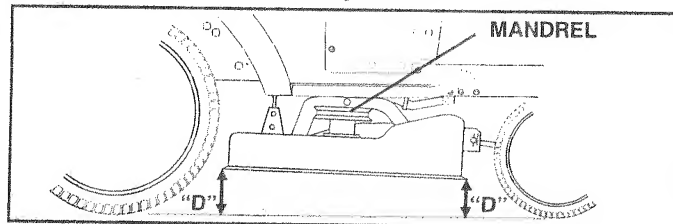


FIG. 19

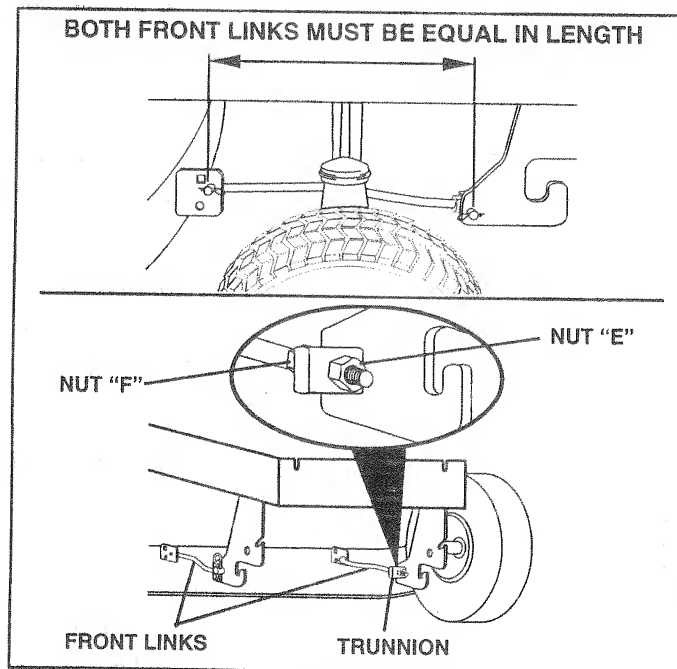


FIG. 20

# SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS

## TO REPLACE MOWER BLADE DRIVE BELT (See Fig. 21)

The mower blade drive belt may be replaced without tools. Park the tractor on level surface. Engage parking brake.

### BELT REMOVAL -

- Place attachment clutch in "DISENGAGED" position.
- Move attachment lift lever forward to lower mower to its lowest position.
- Roll belt off engine pulley.
- Disconnect R.H. suspension arm from rear deck bracket by removing retainer spring.
- Work belt off both mandrel pulleys and idler pulleys.
- Pull belt away from mower.

### BELT INSTALLATION -

- Install new belt in reverse order of removal.
- Make sure belt is in all pulley grooves and inside all belt guides.

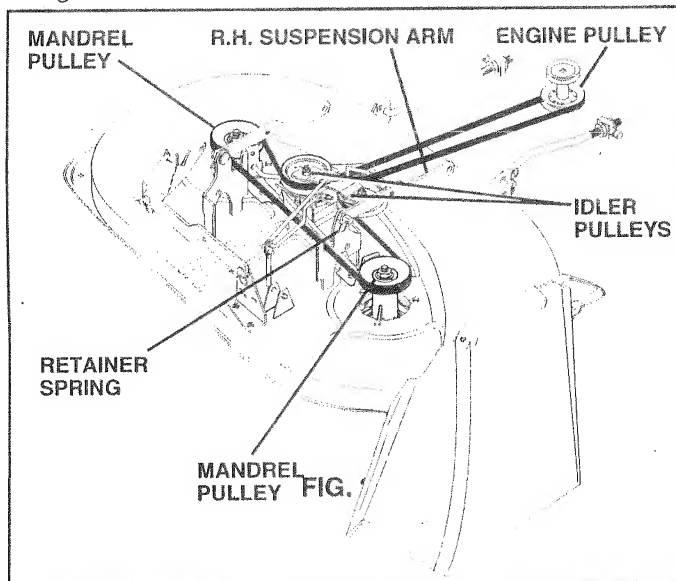


FIG. 21

## TO ADJUST BRAKE (See Fig. 22)

Your tractor is equipped with an adjustable brake system which is mounted on the right side of the transaxle.

If tractor requires more than six (6) feet stopping distance at high speed in highest gear, then brake must be adjusted.

- Depress clutch/brake pedal and engage parking brake.
- Measure distance between brake operating arm and nut "A" on brake rod.
- If distance is other than 1-1/2", loosen jam nut and turn nut "A" until distance becomes 1-1/2". Retighten jam nut against nut "A".
- Road test tractor for proper stopping distance as stated above. Readjust if necessary. If stopping distance is still greater than six (6) feet in highest gear, further maintenance is necessary. Contact your nearest authorized service center.

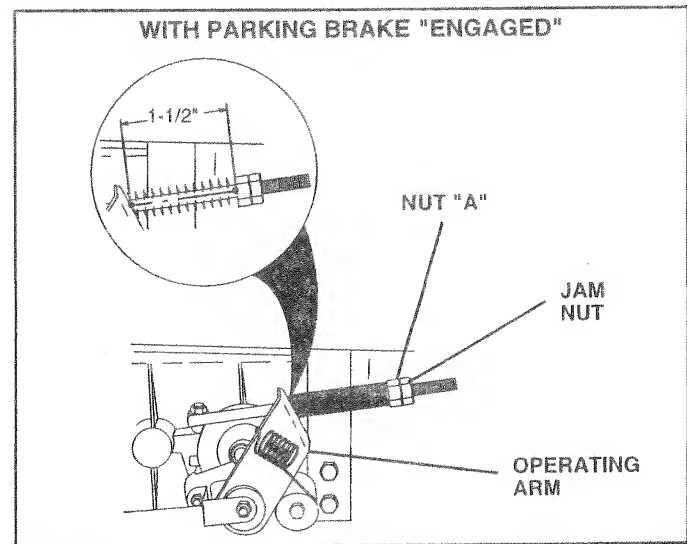


FIG. 22

## TO REPLACE MOTION DRIVE BELT (See Fig. 23)

Park the tractor on level surface. Engage parking brake. For assistance, there is a belt installation guide decal on bottom side of left footrest.

- Remove mower (See "TO REMOVE MOWER" in this section of this manual.)
- Remove upper belt keeper.
- Remove belt from stationary idler and clutching idler.
- Pull belt slack toward rear of tractor. Remove belt upwards from transaxle pulley by deflecting belt keepers.
- Pull belt toward front of tractor and remove downwards from around engine pulley.
- Install new belt by reversing above procedure.

**IMPORTANT:** MAKE SURE UPPER BELT KEEPER IS POSITIONED PROPERLY BETWEEN LOCATOR TABS.

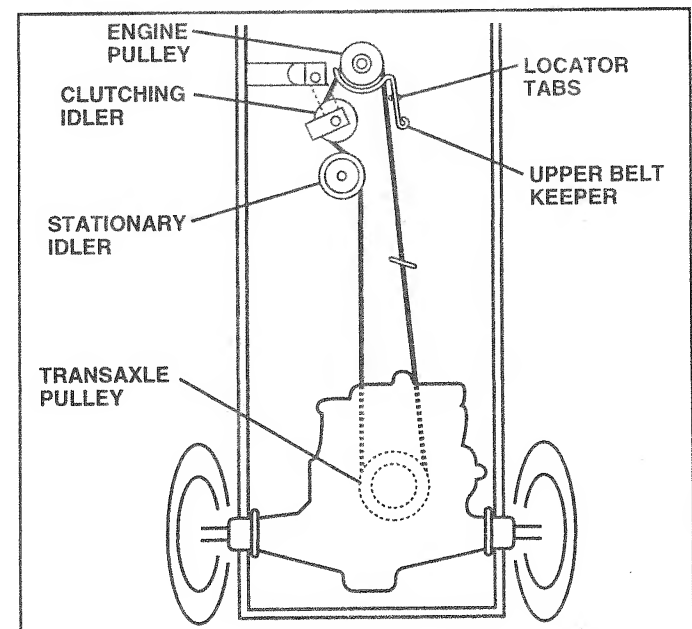


FIG. 23



# SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS

## TO ADJUST STEERING WHEEL ALIGNMENT

If steering wheel crossbars are not horizontal (left to right) when wheels are positioned straight forward, remove steering wheel and reassemble per instructions in the Assembly section of this manual.

## FRONT WHEEL TOE-IN/CAMBER

The front wheel toe-in and camber are not adjustable on your tractor. If damage has occurred to affect the front wheel toe-in or camber, contact your nearest authorized service center.

## TO REMOVE WHEEL FOR REPAIRS

See Fig. 24)

Block up axle securely.

Remove axle cover, retaining ring and washers to allow wheel removal (rear wheel contains a square key - Do not lose).

Repair tire and reassemble.

On rear wheels only: align grooves in rear wheel hub and axle. Insert square key.

Replace washers and snap retaining ring securely in axle groove.

Replace axle cover.

**OTE:** To seal tire punctures and prevent flat tires due to low leaks, tire sealant may be purchased from your local parts dealer. Tire sealant also prevents tire dry rot and corrosion.

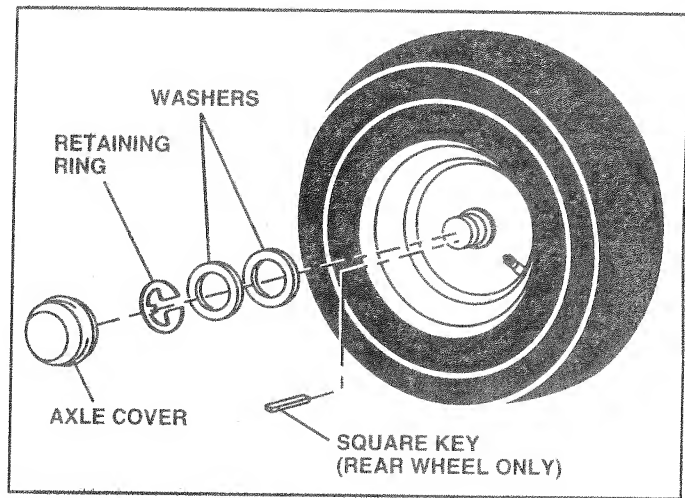


FIG. 24

# SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS

## TO START ENGINE WITH A WEAK BATTERY (See Fig. 25)



**CAUTION:** Lead-acid batteries generate explosive gases. Keep sparks, flame and smoking materials away from batteries. Always wear eye protection when around batteries.

If your battery is too weak to start the engine, it should be recharged. If "jumper cables" are used for emergency starting, follow this procedure:

**IMPORTANT:** YOUR TRACTOR IS EQUIPPED WITH A 12 VOLT NEGATIVE GROUND SYSTEM. THE OTHER VEHICLE MUST ALSO BE A 12 VOLT NEGATIVE GROUND SYSTEM. DO NOT USE YOUR TRACTOR BATTERY TO START OTHER VEHICLES.

### TO ATTACH JUMPER CABLES -

- Connect each end of the RED cable to the POSITIVE (+) terminal of each battery, taking care not to short against chassis.
- Connect one end of the BLACK cable to the NEGATIVE (-) terminal of fully charged battery.
- Connect the other end of the BLACK cable to good CHASSIS GROUND, away from fuel tank and battery.

### TO REMOVE CABLES, REVERSE ORDER -

- BLACK cable first from chassis and then from the fully charged battery.
- RED cable last from both batteries.

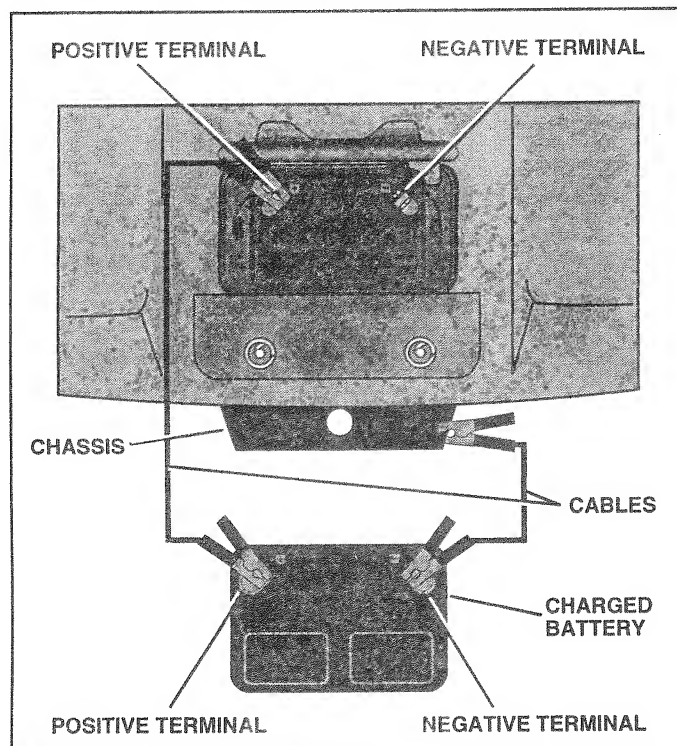


FIG. 25

## TO REPLACE HEADLIGHT BULB

- Raise hood.
- Pull bulb holder out of the hole in the backside of the grill.
- Replace bulb in holder and push bulb holder securely back into the hole in the backside of the grill.
- Close hood.

## INTERLOCKS AND RELAYS

Loose or damaged wiring may cause your tractor to run poorly, stop running, or prevent it from starting.

- Check wiring. See electrical wiring diagram in Repair Parts section of this manual.

## TO REPLACE FUSE

Replace with 30 amp automotive-type plug-in fuse. The fuse holder is located behind the dash.

## TO REMOVE HOOD AND GRILL ASSEMBLY (See Fig. 26)

- Raise hood.
- Unsnap headlight wire connector.
- Stand in front of tractor. Grasp hood at sides, tilt toward engine and lift off of tractor.
- To replace, reverse above procedure.

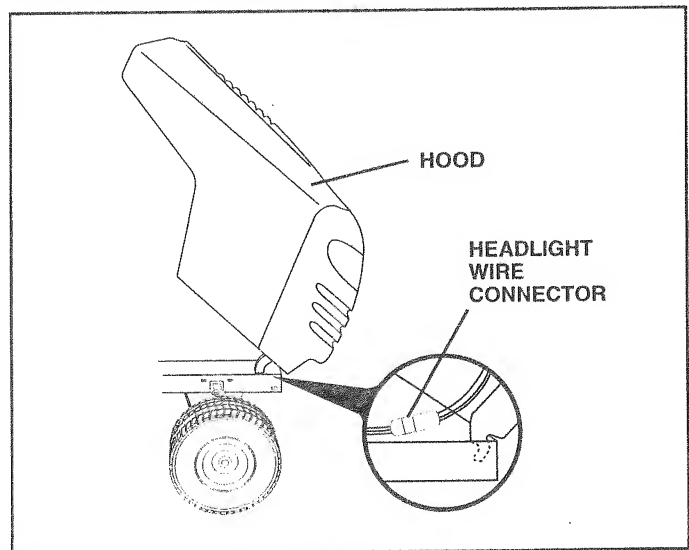


FIG. 26

# SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS

## ENGINE

### TO ADJUST THROTTLE CONTROL CABLE (See Fig. 27)

The throttle control has been preset at the factory and adjustment should not be necessary. Check adjustment as described below before loosening cable. If adjustment is necessary, proceed as follows:

With engine not running, move throttle control lever from slow (☞) to choke (☛) position. Slowly move lever from choke (☛) to fast (☜) position.

Check that holes "A" in governor control lever and hole in governor plate line-up. If holes "A" are not aligned, loosen clamp screw and move throttle cable until holes are aligned. Tighten clamp screw securely.

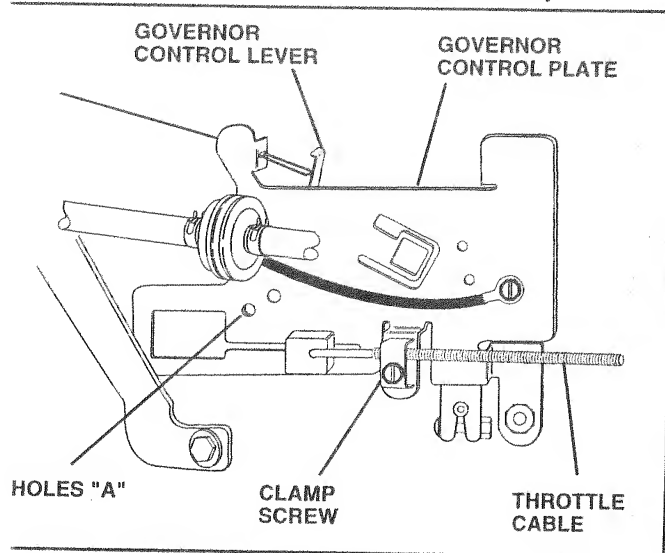


FIG. 27

### O ADJUST CARBURETOR (See Fig. 28)

The carburetor has been preset at the factory and adjustment should not be necessary. However, minor adjustment may be required to compensate for differences in fuel, temperature, altitude or load. If the carburetor does need adjustment, proceed as follows:

In general, turning idle mixture valve **in** (clockwise) decreases the supply of fuel to the engine giving a leaner fuel/air mixture. Turning the idle mixture valve **out** (counterclockwise) increases the supply of fuel to the engine giving a richer fuel/air mixture.

**IMPORTANT:** DAMAGE TO THE NEEDLE VALVE AND THE SEAT IN CARBURETOR MAY RESULT IF SCREW IS TURNED IN TOO TIGHT.

#### PRELIMINARY SETTING -

Air cleaner assembly must be assembled to the carburetor when making carburetor adjustments.

Be sure the throttle control cable is adjusted properly (see above).

With engine off turn idle mixture valve **in** (clockwise) closing it finger tight and then turn **out** (counterclockwise) 1 full turn.

#### FINAL SETTING -

- Start engine and allow to warm for five minutes. Make final adjustments with engine running and shift/motion control lever in neutral (N) position.
- Move throttle control lever to slow (☞) position. With finger, rotate and hold throttle lever against idle speed screw. Turn idle speed screw to attain 1750 RPM.
- While still holding throttle lever against idle speed screw, turn idle mixture valve **in** (clockwise) until engine begins to die and then turn **out** (counterclockwise) until engine runs rough. Turn valve to a point midway between those two positions. Release throttle lever.

#### ACCELERATION TEST -

- Move throttle control lever from slow (☞) to fast (☜) position. If engine hesitates or dies, turn idle mixture valve **out** (counterclockwise) 1/8 turn. Repeat test and continue to adjust, if necessary, until engine accelerates smoothly.

High speed stop is factory adjusted. Do not adjust - damage may result.

**IMPORTANT:** NEVER TAMPER WITH THE ENGINE GOVERNOR, WHICH IS FACTORY SET FOR PROPER ENGINE SPEED. OVERSPEEDING THE ENGINE ABOVE THE FACTORY HIGH SPEED SETTING CAN BE DANGEROUS. IF YOU THINK THE ENGINE-GOVERNED HIGH SPEED NEEDS ADJUSTING, CONTACT YOUR NEAREST AUTHORIZED SERVICE CENTER/DEPARTMENT, WHICH HAS PROPER EQUIPMENT AND EXPERIENCE TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS.

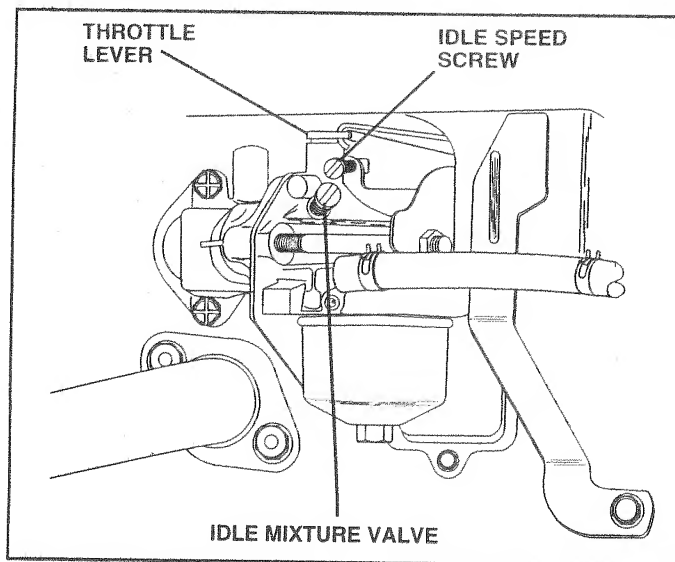


FIG. 28

# STORAGE

Immediately prepare your tractor for storage at the end of the season or if the tractor will not be used for 30 days or more.



**CAUTION:** Never store the tractor with gasoline in the tank inside a building where fumes may reach an open flame or spark. Allow the engine to cool before storing in any enclosure.

## TRACTOR

Remove mower from tractor for winter storage. When mower is to be stored for a period of time, clean it thoroughly, remove all dirt, grease, leaves, etc. Store in a clean, dry area.

- Clean entire tractor (See "CLEANING" in the Customer Responsibilities section of this manual).
- Inspect and replace belts, if necessary (See belt replacement instructions in the Service and Adjustments section of this manual).
- Lubricate as shown in the Customer Responsibilities section of this manual.
- Be sure that all nuts, bolts and screws are securely fastened. Inspect moving parts for damage, breakage and wear. Replace if necessary.
- Touch up all rusted or chipped paint surfaces; sand lightly before painting.

## BATTERY

- Fully charge the battery for storage.
- After a period of time in storage, battery may require recharging.
- To help prevent corrosion and power leakage during long periods of storage, battery cables should be disconnected and battery cleaned thoroughly (see "TO CLEAN BATTERY AND TERMINALS" in the Customer Responsibilities section of this manual).
- After cleaning, leave cables disconnected and place cables where they cannot come in contact with battery terminals.
- Be sure battery drain tube is securely attached.
- If battery is removed from tractor for storage, do not store battery directly on concrete or damp surfaces.

## ENGINE

### FUEL SYSTEM

**IMPORTANT:** IT IS IMPORTANT TO PREVENT GUM DEPOSITS FROM FORMING IN ESSENTIAL FUEL SYSTEM PARTS SUCH AS CARBURETOR, FUEL FILTER, FUEL HOSE, OR TANK DURING STORAGE. ALSO, EXPERIENCE INDICATES THAT ALCOHOL BLENDED FUELS (CALLED GASOHOL OR USING ETHANOL OR METHANOL) CAN ATTRACT MOISTURE WHICH LEADS TO SEPARATION AND FORMATION OF ACIDS DURING STORAGE. ACIDIC GAS CAN DAMAGE THE FUEL SYSTEM OF AN ENGINE WHILE IN STORAGE.

- Drain the fuel tank.
- Start the engine and let it run until the fuel lines and carburetor are empty.
- Never use engine or carburetor cleaner products in the fuel tank or permanent damage may occur.
- Use fresh fuel next season.

**NOTE:** Fuel stabilizer is an acceptable alternative in minimizing the formation of fuel gum deposits during storage. Add stabilizer to gasoline in fuel tank or storage container. Always follow the mix ratio found on stabilizer container. Run engine at least 10 minutes after adding stabilizer to allow the stabilizer to reach the carburetor. Do not drain the gas tank and carburetor if using fuel stabilizer.

### ENGINE OIL

Drain oil (with engine warm) and replace with clean engine oil. (See "ENGINE" in the Customer Responsibilities section of this manual).

### CYLINDERS

- Remove spark plug(s).
- Pour one ounce of oil through spark plug hole(s) into cylinder(s).
- Turn ignition key to "START" position for a few seconds to distribute oil.
- Replace with new spark plug(s).

## OTHER

- Do not store gasoline from one season to another.
- Replace your gasoline can if your can starts to rust. Rust and/or dirt in your gasoline will cause problems.
- If possible, store your tractor indoors and cover it to give protection from dust and dirt.
- Cover your tractor with a suitable protective cover that does not retain moisture. Do not use plastic. Plastic cannot breathe which allows condensation to form and will cause your tractor to rust.

**IMPORTANT:** NEVER COVER TRACTOR WHILE ENGINE AND EXHAUST AREAS ARE STILL WARM.

# TROUBLESHOOTING POINTS

PROBLEM	CAUSE	CORRECTION
Will not start	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Out of fuel.</li> <li>2. Engine not "CHOKED" properly.</li> <li>3. Engine flooded.</li> <li>4. Bad spark plug.</li> <li>5. Dirty air filter.</li> <li>6. Dirty fuel filter.</li> <li>7. Water in fuel.</li> <li>8. Loose or damaged wiring.</li> <li>9. Carburetor out of adjustment.</li> <li>10. Engine valves out of adjustment.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fill fuel tank.</li> <li>2. See "TO START ENGINE" in Operation section.</li> <li>3. Wait several minutes before attempting to start.</li> <li>4. Replace spark plug.</li> <li>5. Clean/replace air filter.</li> <li>6. Replace fuel filter.</li> <li>7. Drain fuel tank and carburetor, refill tank with fresh gasoline and replace fuel filter.</li> <li>8. Check all wiring.</li> <li>9. See "To Adjust Carburetor" in Service Adjustments section.</li> <li>10. Contact an authorized service center/department.</li> </ol>
Hard to start	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dirty air filter.</li> <li>2. Bad spark plug.</li> <li>3. Weak or dead battery.</li> <li>4. Dirty fuel filter.</li> <li>5. Stale or dirty fuel.</li> <li>6. Loose or damaged wiring.</li> <li>7. Carburetor out of adjustment.</li> <li>8. Engine valves out of adjustment.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clean/replace air filter.</li> <li>2. Replace spark plug.</li> <li>3. Recharge or replace battery.</li> <li>4. Replace fuel filter.</li> <li>5. Drain fuel tank and refill with fresh gasoline.</li> <li>6. Check all wiring.</li> <li>7. See "To Adjust Carburetor" in Service Adjustments section.</li> <li>8. Contact an authorized service center/department.</li> </ol>
Engine will not turn over	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clutch/brake pedal not depressed.</li> <li>2. Attachment clutch is engaged.</li> <li>3. Weak or dead battery.</li> <li>4. Blown fuse.</li> <li>5. Corroded battery terminals.</li> <li>6. Loose or damaged wiring.</li> <li>7. Faulty ignition switch.</li> <li>8. Faulty solenoid or starter.</li> <li>9. Faulty operator presence switch(es).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Depress clutch/brake pedal.</li> <li>2. Disengage attachment clutch.</li> <li>3. Recharge or replace battery.</li> <li>4. Replace fuse.</li> <li>5. Clean battery terminals.</li> <li>6. Check all wiring.</li> <li>7. Check/replace ignition switch.</li> <li>8. Check/replace solenoid or starter.</li> <li>9. Contact an authorized service center/department.</li> </ol>
Engine clicks but will not start	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Weak or dead battery.</li> <li>2. Corroded battery terminals.</li> <li>3. Loose or damaged wiring.</li> <li>4. Faulty solenoid or starter.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recharge or replace battery.</li> <li>2. Clean battery terminals.</li> <li>3. Check all wiring.</li> <li>4. Check/replace solenoid or starter.</li> </ol>
Loss of power	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cutting too much grass/too fast.</li> <li>2. Throttle in "CHOKE" position.</li> <li>3. Build-up of grass, leaves and trash under mower.</li> <li>4. Dirty air filter.</li> <li>5. Low oil level/dirty oil.</li> <li>6. Faulty spark plug.</li> <li>7. Dirty fuel filter.</li> <li>8. Stale or dirty fuel.</li> <li>9. Water in fuel.</li> <li>10. Spark plug wire loose.</li> <li>11. Dirty engine air screen/fins.</li> <li>12. Dirty/clogged muffler.</li> <li>13. Loose or damaged wiring.</li> <li>14. Carburetor out of adjustment.</li> <li>15. Engine valves out of adjustment.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Set in "Higher Cut" position/reduce speed.</li> <li>2. Adjust throttle control.</li> <li>3. Clean underside of mower housing.</li> <li>4. Clean/replace air filter.</li> <li>5. Check oil level/change oil.</li> <li>6. Clean and regap or change spark plug.</li> <li>7. Replace fuel filter.</li> <li>8. Drain fuel tank and refill with fresh gasoline.</li> <li>9. Drain fuel tank and carburetor, refill tank with fresh gasoline and replace fuel filter.</li> <li>10. Connect and tighten spark plug wire.</li> <li>11. Clean engine air screen/fins.</li> <li>12. Clean/replace muffler.</li> <li>13. Check all wiring.</li> <li>14. See "To Adjust Carburetor" in Service Adjustments section.</li> <li>15. Contact an authorized service center/department.</li> </ol>
Excessive vibration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Worn, bent or loose blade.</li> <li>2. Bent blade mandrel.</li> <li>3. Loose/damaged part(s).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Replace blade. Tighten blade bolt.</li> <li>2. Replace blade mandrel.</li> <li>3. Tighten loose part(s). Replace damaged parts.</li> </ol>

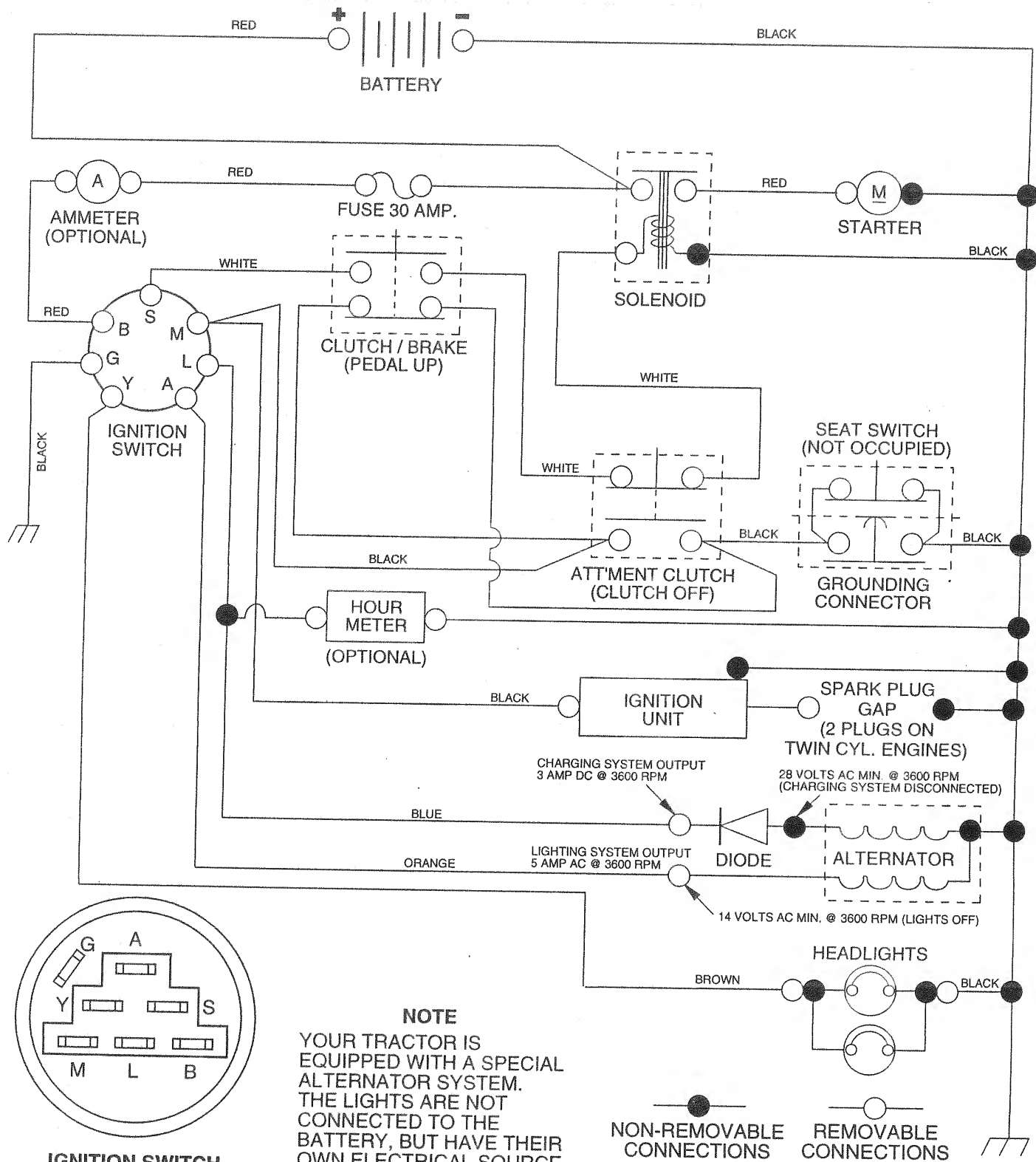
# TROUBLESHOOTING POINTS

PROBLEM	CAUSE	CORRECTION
Engine continues to run when operator leaves seat with attachment clutch engaged	1. Faulty operator-safety presence control system.	1. Check wiring, switches and connections. If not corrected, contact an authorized service center/department.
Poor cut - uneven	1. Worn, bent or loose blade. 2. Mower deck not level. 3. Buildup of grass, leaves, and trash under mower. 4. Bent blade mandrel. 5. Clogged mower deck vent holes from buildup of grass, leaves, and trash around mandrels.	1. Replace blade. Tighten blade bolt. 2. Level mower deck. 3. Clean underside of mower housing. 4. Replace blade mandrel. 5. Clean around mandrels to open vent holes.
Mower blades will not rotate	1. Obstruction in clutch mechanism. 2. Worn/damaged mower drive belt. 3. Frozen idler pulley. 4. Frozen blade mandrel.	1. Remove obstruction. 2. Replace mower drive belt. 3. Replace idler pulley. 4. Replace blade mandrel.
Poor grass discharge	1. Engine speed too slow. 2. Travel speed too fast. 3. Wet grass. 4. Mower deck not level. 5. Low/uneven tire air pressure. 6. Worn, bent or loose blade. 7. Buildup of grass, leaves and trash under mower. 8. Mower drive belt worn. 9. Blades improperly installed. 10. Improper blades used. 11. Clogged mower deck vent holes from buildup of grass, leaves, and trash around mandrels.	1. Place throttle control in "FAST" position. 2. Shift to slower speed. 3. Allow grass to dry before mowing. 4. Level mower deck. 5. Check tires for proper air pressure. 6. Replace/sharpen blade. Tighten blade bolt. 7. Clean underside of mower housing. 8. Replace mower drive belt. 9. Reinstall blades sharp edge down. 10. Replace with blades listed in this manual. 11. Clean around mandrels to open vent holes.
Headlight(s) not working (if so equipped)	1. Switch is "OFF". 2. Bulb(s) burned out. 3. Faulty light switch. 4. Loose or damaged wiring. 5. Blown fuse.	1. Turn switch "ON". 2. Replace bulb(s). 3. Check/replace light switch. 4. Check wiring and connections. 5. Replace fuse.
Battery will not charge	1. Bad battery cell(s). 2. Poor cable connections. 3. Faulty regulator (if so equipped). 4. Faulty alternator.	1. Replace battery. 2. Check/clean all connections. 3. Replace regulator. 4. Replace alternator.
Engine "backfires" when turning engine "OFF"	1. Engine throttle control not set at "SLOW" position for 30 seconds before stopping engine.	1. Move throttle control to "SLOW" position and allow to idle for 30 seconds before stopping engine.

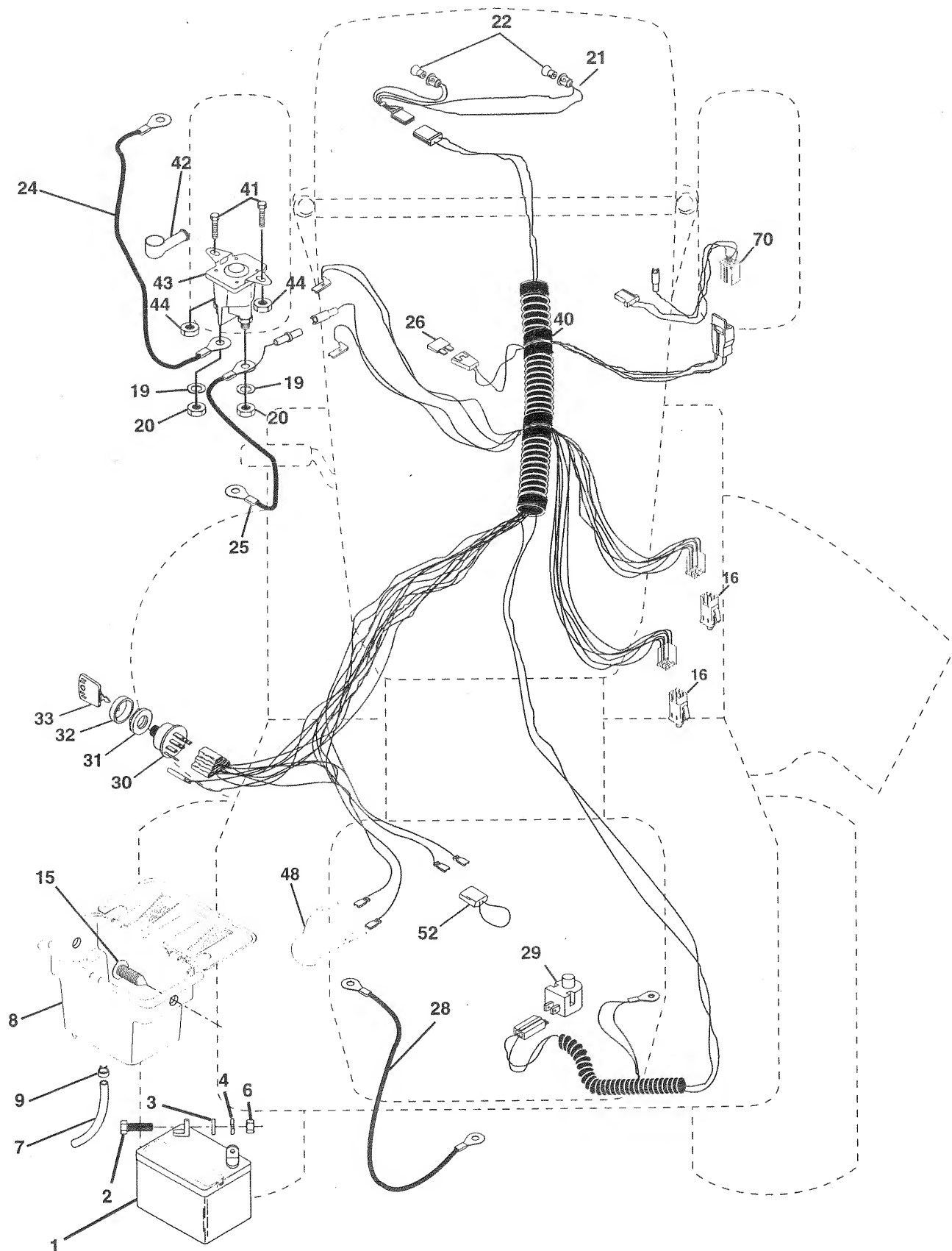


# TRACTOR - - MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

## SCHEMATIC



# ELECTRICAL



# REPAIR PARTS

## TRACTOR - - MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

### ELECTRICAL

KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	144925	Battery 12 Volt 25 AMP
2	74760412	Bolt Hex Hd 1/4-20unc X 3/4
3	19091016	Washer 9/32 X 5/8 X 16 Ga
4	10040400	Washer Lock Hvy Helical 1/4
6	73220400	Nut Fin Hex 1/4-20 Unc
7	109238X	Tube Plastic 12"
8	156417	Case Battery Mech Hinge
9	109596X	Clamp Hose Olive
15	147688	Fastener Snap- in
16	153664	Switch Interlock Push-In
19	10090400	Washer Lock 1/4
20	73350400	Nut Jam Hex 1/4-20 Unc
21	136850	Harness Asm Light W/4152j
22	4152J	Bulb Light #1156
24	4799J	Cable Battery 6 Ga 11" red
25	146147	Cable Battery 6 Ga red w/16 Wire
26	108824X	Fuse 30 AMP Auto Green
28	4207J	Cable Ground 6 Ga 12" black
29	121305X	Switch Plunger Nc Gray
30	140301	Switch Ign 4 pos
31	124211X	Nut Ignition
32	141226	Cover Sw Key Blk 1 25 Text SLT
33	122147X	Key Ign Molded
40	156442	Harness Ign Man CL AM HM 97
41	71110408	Bolt Blk. Fin Hex 1/4-20 Unc x 1/2
42	131563	Cover Terminal Red
43	145673	Solenoid
44	73640400	Nut Keps Blk Hx 1/4-20 Unc
48	140844	Adapter Ammeter Rectangular
52	141940	Protection Wire Loop
70	140413	Harness Engine B&S Tec Dual

**NOTE:** All component dimensions give in U.S. inches  
1 inch = 25.4 mm

## CHASSIS AND ENCLOSURES



# REPAIR PARTS

## TRACTOR - - MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

### CHASSIS AND ENCLOSURES

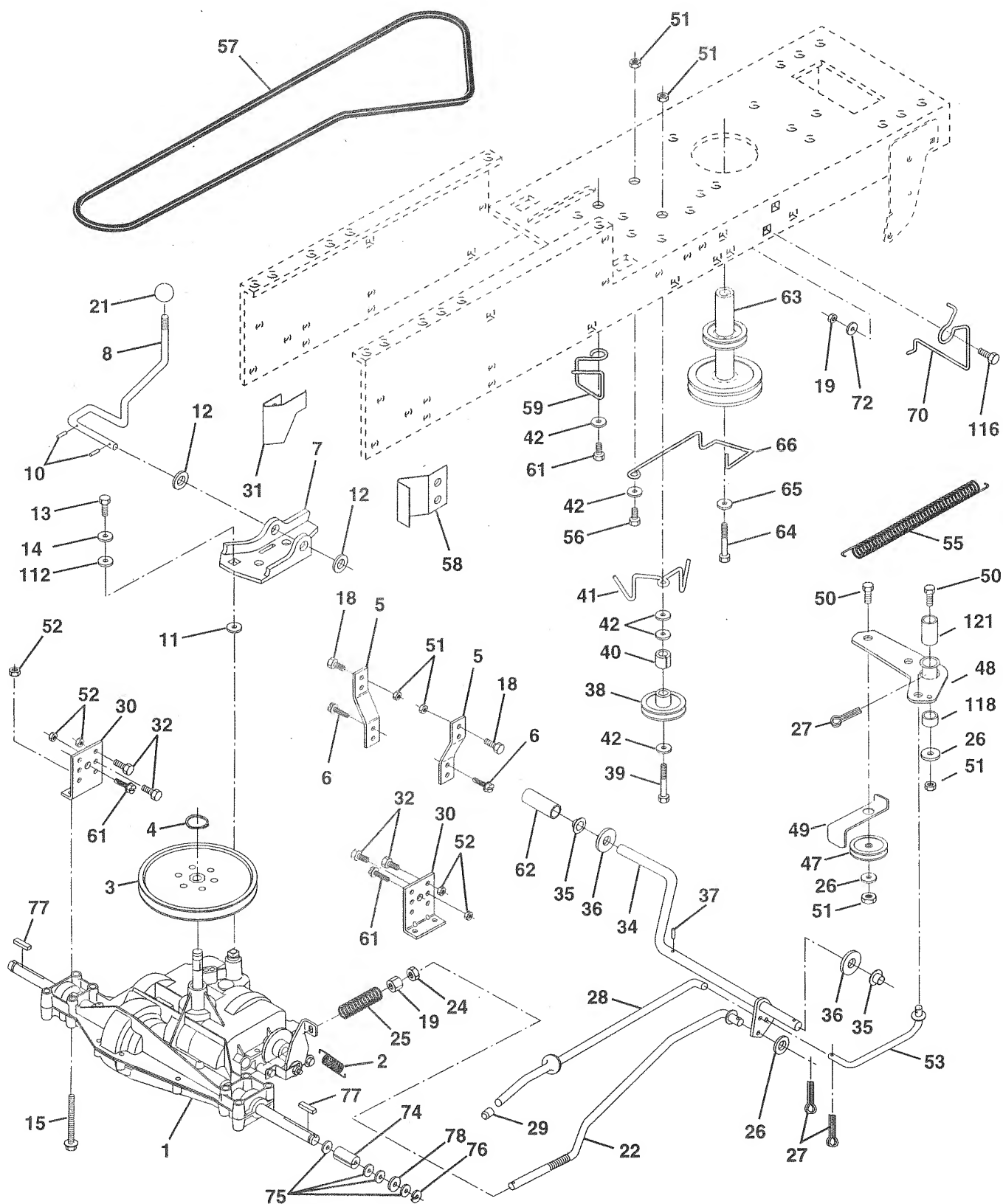
KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	159530	Chassis Assembly
2	140356	Drawbar
3	17490612	Screw, Thd. Roll. 3/8-16 x 3/4
4	19131216	Washer 13/32 x 3/4 x 16 Gauge
5	155272	Bumper Hood/Dash
6	155924X014	Saddle
8	155138	Clip Retainer Slide-On
9	147627X011	Dash
10	72140608	Bolt, Carriage 3/8-16 x 3/4
11	155927	Panel, Dash, L.H.
12	145660	Clip Tinnerman Grille P/L
13	155934X010	Panel, Dash, R.H.
14	17490608	Screw Thdrol 3/8-16 x 1/2
15	74180512	Screw, Machine, Truss Head 5/16-18 UNC x 3/4
16	73510500	Nut
17	139394X550	Hood Assembly
18	126938X	Bumper Hood
24	74780616	Bolt
25	19131312	Washer 13/32 x 13/16 x 12 Gauge
26	73800600	Nut
28	157539	Grill
29	150209	Lens, Grille
30	109872X550	Fender
31	136619	Bracket, Fender Support
33	105476X550	Footrest, L.H.
34	105475X550	Footrest, R.H.
35	72110606	Bolt
38	139886	Pivot Bracket Assembly, L.H.
39	139887	Pivot Bracket Assembly, R.H.
51	73800400	Nut Lock, w/Insert 1/4-20 Unc
52	19091416	Washer 9/32 x 7/8 x 16 Ga.
53	144697	Bracket Grille Lh
54	17030814	Screw Spiderlock Hex Hd #8-7/8
55	144696	Bracket Grille Rh
57	74780412	Bolt Fin Hex 1/4-20 Unc x .75
71	73680400	Nut, Crownlock 1/4-20 UNC
140	158418	Bracket Suspension Front
145	156524	Rod Pivot jChassis/Hood
147	74760412	Bolt Hex Hd 1/4-20 UNC x 3/4
--	5479J	Plug, Button

**NOTE:** All component dimensions given in U.S. inches  
1 inch = 25.4 mm

# REPAIR PARTS

TRACTOR - - MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

## DRIVE





# REPAIR PARTS

## TRACTOR - - MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

### DRIVE

KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	-----	Transaxle (See Breakdown) Dana 430-78
2	146682	Spring Return Brake T/a Zinc
3	123666X	Pulley Transaxle Alum
4	12000028	Ring Retainer # 5100-62
5	121520X	Strap Pnt Torque 30 Deg Blk
6	17490512	Screw Thdrol 5/16-18 X 3/4 Tyt
7	130802	Plate Pnt Rod Shift T/a (blk )
8	131679	Rod Shifter Blk
10	76020416	Pin Cotter 1/8 X 1 Cad
11	105701X	Washer Plate Shf 388 Sq Hole
12	19151216	Washer 15/32 X 3/4 X 16ga
13	74550412	Bolt 1/4-28unf Gr8 w/Patch
14	10040400	Washer Lock Hvy Helical 1/4
15	74490544	Bolt Hex FLGHD 5/16-18 Gr.5
18	74780616	Bolt Fin Hex 3/8-16 Unc x 1 Gr. 5
19	73800600	Nut Lock 3/8-16 Unc
21	106933X	Knob Rd 1/2-13 Plstc Thds Blk
22	130804	Rod Brake Lt
24	73350600	Nut Hex Jam 3/8-16 Unc
25	106888X	Spring Rod Brake 2 00 Zinc
26	19131316	Washer 13/32 X 13/16 X 16 Ga
27	76020412	Pin Cotter 1/8 X 3/4 Cad
28	145204	Rod Brake Parking Lt/Yt
29	71673	Cap Parking Brake Red
30	130807	Bracket Transmission
31	127275X	Keeper Belt Lh Lt 14 Ga
32	74760512	Bolt Fin Hex 5/16-18 x 3/4
34	155071	Shaft Asm Pedal Foot
35	120183X	Bearing Nylon Blk 629 Id
36	19211616	Washer 21/32 X 1 X 16 Ga
37	1572H	Pin Roll 3/16 X 1"
38	123674X	Pulley Idler Flat
39	74760644	Bolt Fin Hex 3/8-16unc X 2-3/4
40	4470J	Spacer Split 395 X 59 Bzp
41	154777	Keeper Belt Idler Fool Proof

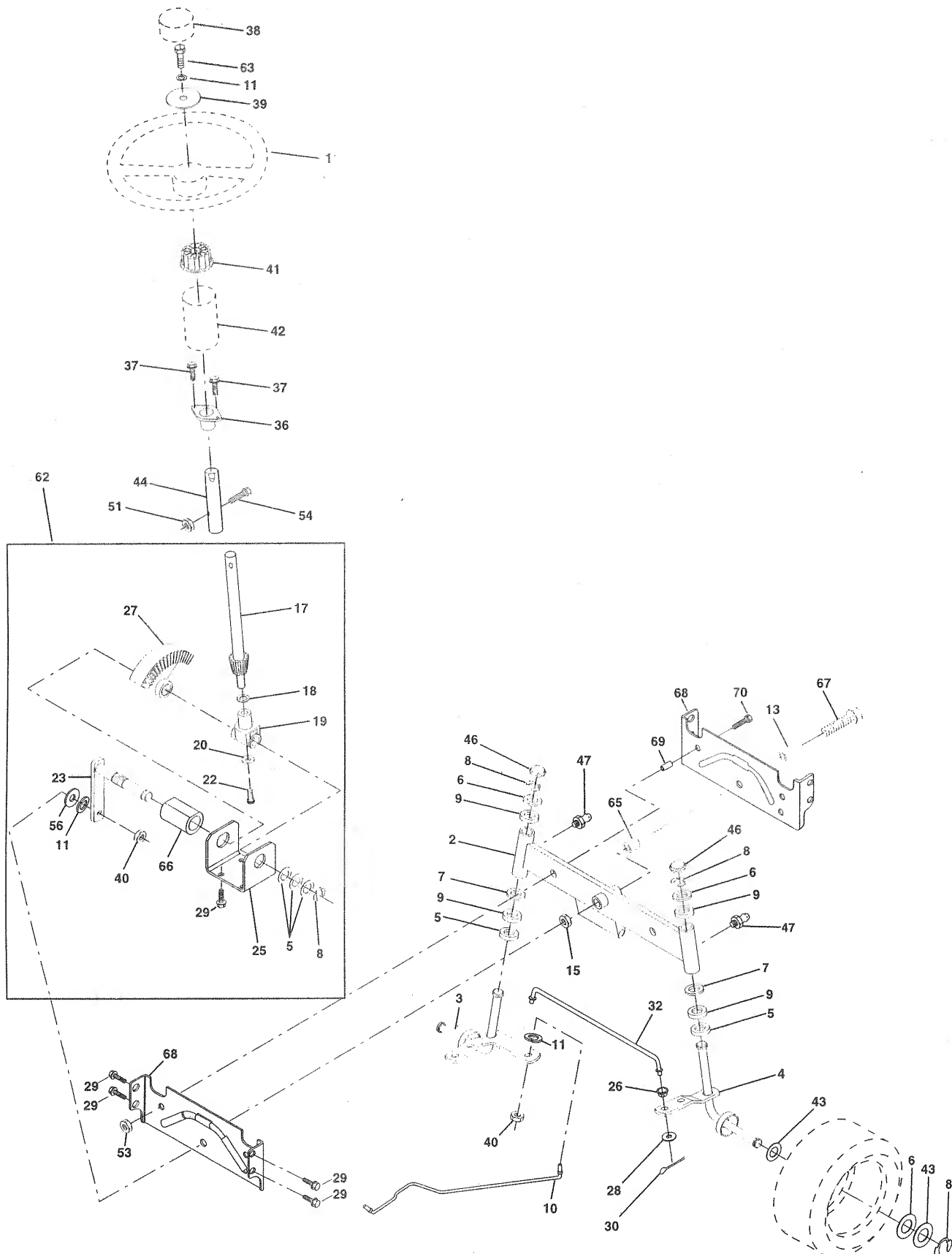
KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
42	19131312	Washer 13/32 X 13/16 X 12 Ga
47	127783	Pulley Idler V Groove Plastic
48	154604	Bellcrank Asm Clutch
49	123205X	Retainer Belt Style Spring
50	74760624	Bolt Hex Hd 3/8-16unc X 1-1/2
51	73680600	Nut Crownlock 3/8-16 Unc
52	73680500	Nut Lock 5/16-18 Unc
53	105710X	Link Clutch 7 66
54	2751R	Clip Line Fuel
55	105709X	Spring Return Clutch 6 75
56	74760620	Bolt Fin Hex 3/8-16unc X 1-1/4
57	130801	V-belt Ground Drive 95.25
58	127274X	Keeper Belt Rh Lt Pnt/zinc 16g
59	140312	Retainer Belt Chassis Lh Zinc
61	17490612	Screw Thdrol 3/8-16x3/4 Ty-tt
62	8883R	Cover Pedal Blk Std
63	140186	Pulley Engine
64	71170764	Bolt Finhex 7/16-20 x 4 g5
65	10040700	Washer Lock Hvy Hlcl Spr 7/16
66	154778	Keeper Belt Engine Fool Proof
70	134683	Guide Belt Dr Mower Rh
72	19132012	Washer 13/32 X 1-1/4 X 12 Ga
74	109502	Spacer Axle
75	121749X	Washer 25/32 X 1 1/4 X 16 Ga
76	12000001	Ring E #5133-75
77	123583X	Key Square 2 0 X 1845/ 1865
78	121748X	Washer 25/32 X 1 5/8 X 16ga
79	2228M	Key Woodruff
96	4497H	Retainer Spring
112	19091210	Washer 9/32 X 3/4 X 10 Ga
116	72110610	Bolt Rdhd Sqnk 3/8-16 x 1.25
118	154774	Spacer Bellcrank
121	154419	Nyliner Clutching SLT

**NOTE:** All component dimensions given in U.S. inches  
1 inch = 25.4 mm

# REPAIR PARTS

TRACTOR -- MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

## STEERING ASSEMBLY



# REPAIR PARTS

## TRACTOR - - MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

### STEERING ASSEMBLY

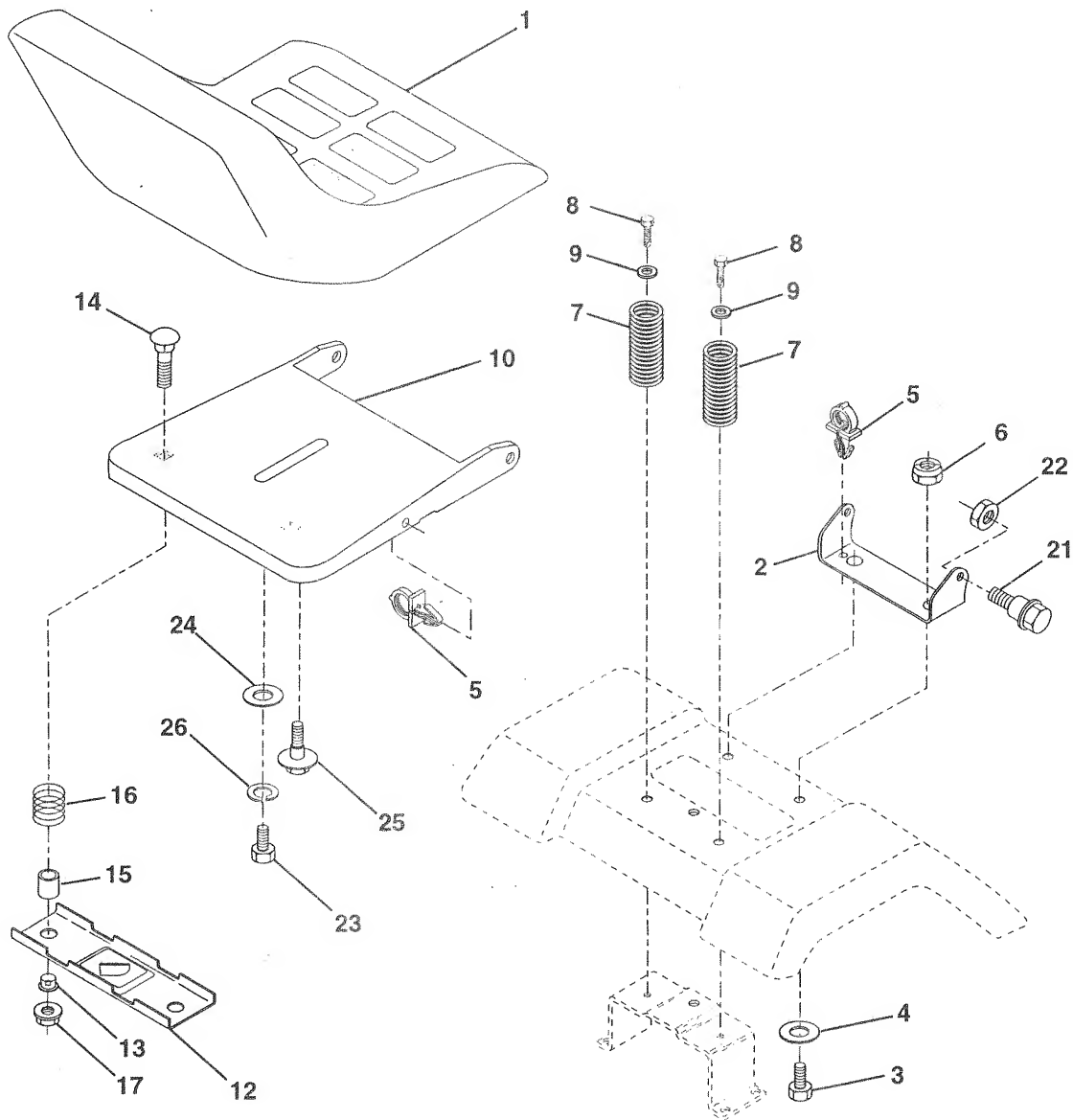
KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	140044	Steering Wheel
2	154427	Front Axle Assembly
3	156483	Spindle Assembly, L.H.
4	157473	Spindle Assembly, R.H.
5	6266H	Bearing, Race, Thrust, Hardened
6	121748X	Washer 25/32 x 1-5/8 x 16 Gauge
7	19272016	Washer 27/32 x 1-1/4 x 16 Gauge
8	12000029	Ring, Klip
9	3366R	Bearing, Steering Column
10	156438	Link, Drag
11	10040600	Washer, Lock
13	154779	Bearing, Axle
15	73901000	Nut, Lock, Flange 5/8-11 UNC
17	156546	Shaft Assembly, Steering
18	57079	Washer, Thrust .515 x .750 x .033
19	124035X	Support, Shaft
20	126684X	Washer, Shim 1/4 x 5/8 x .062
21	10040400	Washer
22	71100410	Screw, Cap Socket Head Phos & Oil
23	127501	Pittman Shaft Assembly
25	154406	Bracket, Steering
26	126847X	Bushing, Link, Drag
27	136874	Gear, Sector
28	19131416	Washer 13/32 x 7/8 x 16 Gauge
29	17490612	Screw, Thd., Roll. 3/8-16 x 3/4
30	76020412	Pin
32	130465	Rod, Tie
36	155099	Bushing, Steering
37	152927	Screw TT #10-32 5 3/8 Flange
38	140045	Insert, Steering Wheel
39	19133808	Washer 13/32 x 2-3/8 x 8 Gauge
40	7810H	Gripco Nut
41	100711L	Adaptor, Steering Wheel
42	145054	Boot, Steering Dash P/L Mtl Blk
43	121749X	Washer 25/32 x 1-1/4 x 16 Gauge
44	153720	Extension Steering
46	121232X	Cap, Spindle
47	6855M	Fitting, Grease
51	73800500	Nut Lock Hx w/Ins. 5/16-18 Unc
53	73680600	Nut Crownlock 3/8-16 UNC
54	74780520	Bolt Fin Hex 5/16-18 Unc x 1-1/4
62	156594	Kit, Steering Assembly, Service
63	74780616	Bolt, Fin Hex 3/8-16 Unc x 1 Grade 5
65	154780	Spacer, Axle
66	154404	Bearing, Arm Pittman
67	74781044	Bolt, Fin Hex 5/8-11 Unc x 2-3/4
68	154429	Brace, Axle
69	160367	Spacer, Brace, Axle
70	74780636	Bolt, Fin Hex 3/8-16 UNC x 2-1/4

**NOTE:** All component dimensions given in U.S. inches  
1 inch = 25.4 mm

# REPAIR PARTS

TRACTOR -- MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

## SEAT ASSEMBLY



KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	127426X	Seat V250
2	140551	Bracket Pnt Pivot Seat (blk )
3	74760616	Bolt Fin Hex 3/8-16unc X 1
4	19131610	Washer 13/32 X 3/4 X 10 Ga
5	145006	Clip Push In Hinged
6	73800600	Nut Crownlock 3/8-16 Unc
7	124181X	Spring Seat Cprsn 2 250 Blk Zi
8	17490616	Screw Thdrol 3/8-16 X 1 Ty-tt
9	19131614	Washer 13/32 X 1 X 14 Ga
10	155925	Pan Pnt Seat (blk )
12	121246X	Bracket Pnt Mounting Switch
13	121248X	Bushing Snap Blk Nyl 50 Id

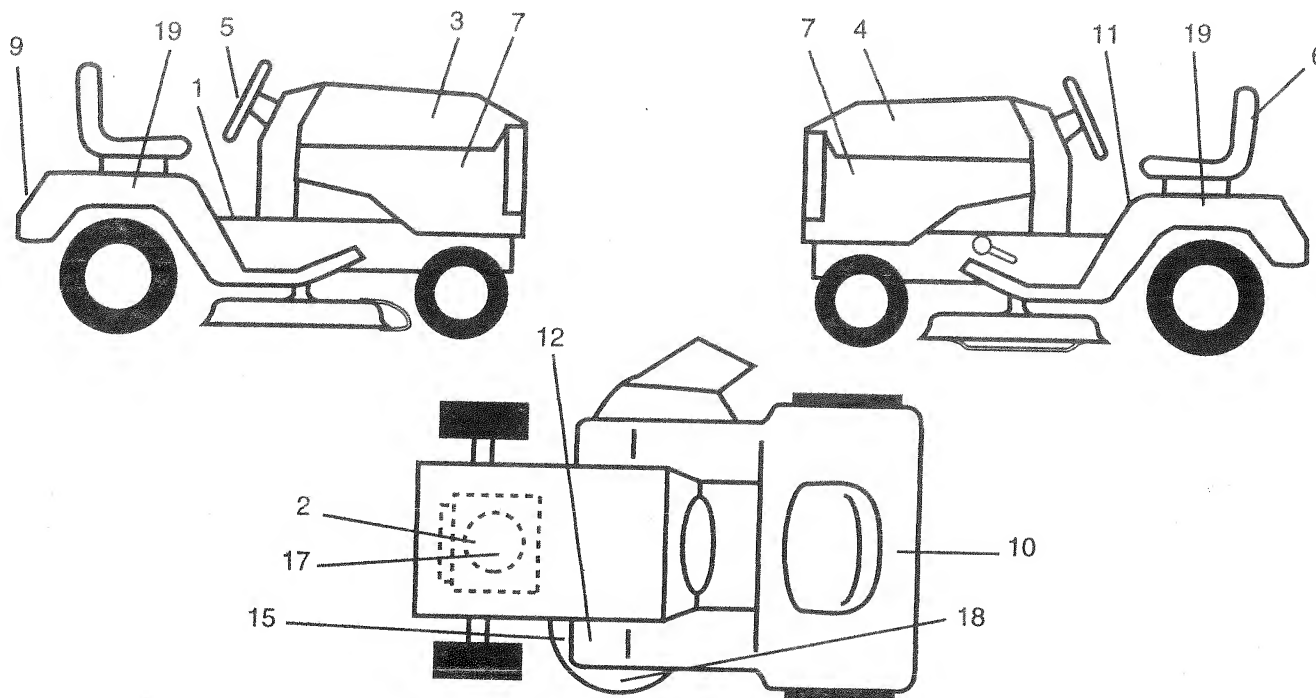
KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
14	72050411	Bolt Rdhd Sht Nk 1/4-20x1-3/8
15	134300	Spacer Split 28 X 96 Zinc
16	121250X	Spring Cprsn 1 27 Blk Pnt
17	123976X	Nut Lock 1/4 Lge Flg Gr 5 Zinc
21	153236	Bolt Shoulder 5/16-18 Unc Blkz
22	73800500	Nut Crown Lock 5/16-18
23	74780814	Bolt Fin Hex 1/2-13 X 7/8 Gr 5
24	19171912	Washer 17/32 X 1-3/16 X 12 Ga
25	127018X	Bolt Shoulder 5/16-18 X 62
26	10040800	Washer Lock Hvy Hlcl Spr 1/2

**NOTE:** All component dimensions given in U.S. inches.  
1 inch = 25.4 mm

# REPAIR PARTS

## TRACTOR - - MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

### DECALS



KEY  
NO. PART  
NO.

#### DESCRIPTION

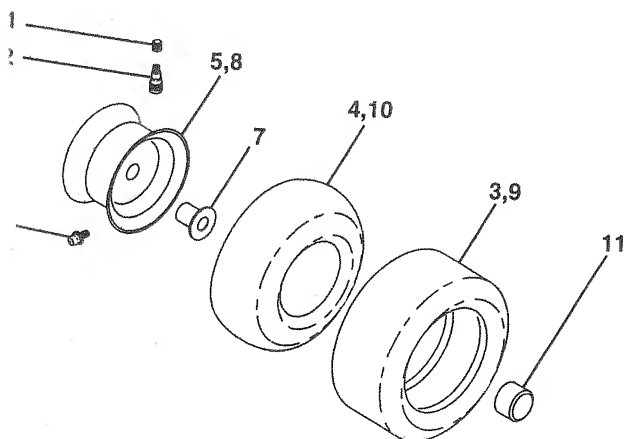
1	158271	Decal Oper Sdl Gear Dr. Eng/Span
2	272632	Decal Engine Hp
3	156609	Decal Hood Rh
4	156610	Decal Hood Lh
5	156604	Decal Ins Strg Wh
6	158315	Decal Seat Replacement
7	158437	Decal Panel Side Speed/Dejck Size
9	156602	Decal Fender Logo
0	145005	Decal Btry Dngr/Psn

KEY  
NO. PART  
NO.

#### DESCRIPTION

11	157141	Decal Fender Danger
12	141897	Decal Clutch/brake Eng/Span
15	136832	Decal Mower Drive Schematic 38
17	158316	Decal Engine Replacement
18	158436	Decal Mower Home Weed Envir
19	158435	Decal Fend Sd 5Sp Lawn Tractor
--	138311	Decal Lift Handle
--	160637	Manual, Owner's (English)
--	160638	Manual, Owner's (Spanish)

### WHEELS & TIRES



KEY  
NO. PART  
NO.

#### DESCRIPTION

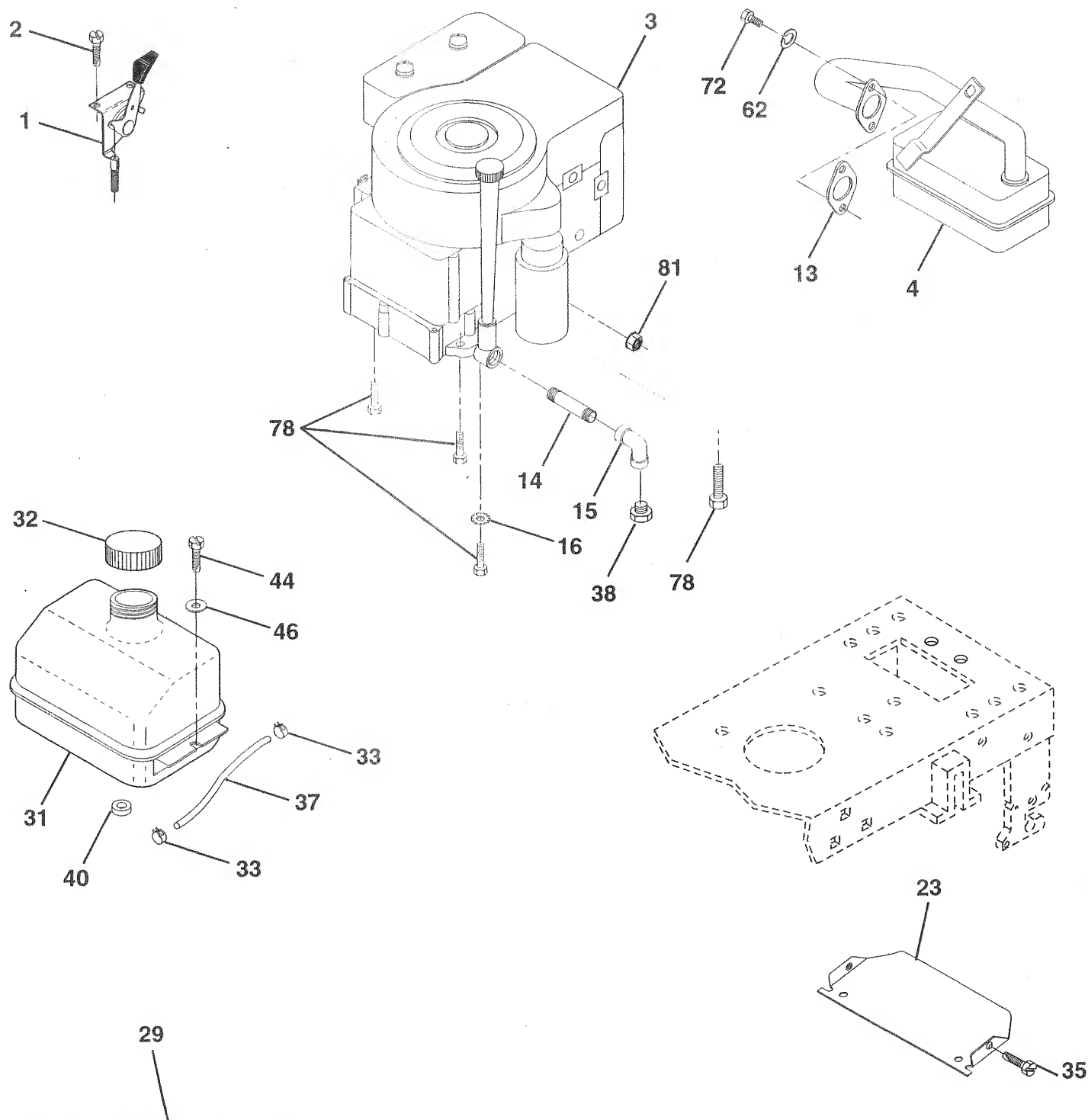
1	59192	Cap Value Tire
2	65139	Stem Value
3	106222X	Tire F Ts 15 X 6 0 - 6 Service
4	59904	Tube Inner Front #35060
5	106732X427	Rim Asm 6"front White Service
6	278H	Fitting Grease
7	9040H	Bearing Flange
8	106108X427	Rim Asm 8"rear White Service
9	124635X	Tire R Ts 18x8 5-8 Service
10	7152J	Tube Rear 9 5 X 8 Service
11	104757X	Cap Axle Blk 1 50 X 1 00
--	144334	Sealant, Tire (10 oz. Tube)

**NOTE:** All component dimensions given in U.S. inches.  
1 inch = 25.4 mm

REPAIR PARTS

TRACTOR - - MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

ENGINE



OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT  
Spark Arrester



# REPAIR PARTS

## TRACTOR - - MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

### ENGINE

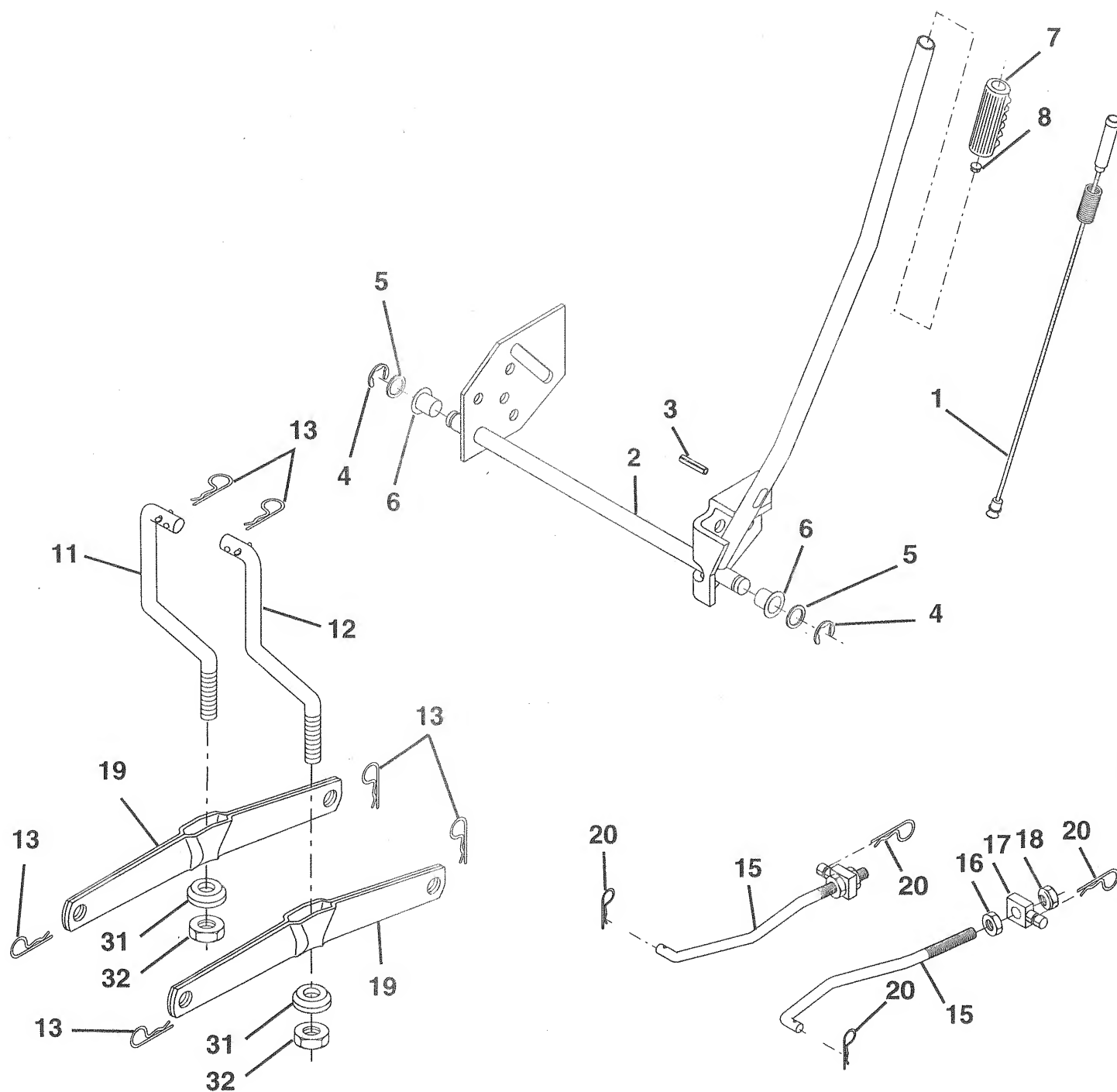
KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	140310	Control Throt/Ch 23 5 Lh Flag
2	17720410	Screw Hex Thd Cut 1/4-20x5/8 T
3	-----	Engine (See Breakdown) B&S Model No. 289707-0179-01
4	137348	Muffler Exhaust B&S Lt
13	272293	Gasket 1 313 Id Tin Plated
14	13280324	Nipple Pipe 3/8 Npt X 3"
15	13200300	Elbow Std 90 Degree 3/8-18 Npt
16	11050600	Washer Lock Ext Tooth 3/8
23	156123	Shield Browning
29	137180	Arrestor Spark
31	109202X	Tank Fuel 1 25 Fr
32	140527	Cap Asm FuelTop Vent n/Lany
33	123487X	Clamp Hose Blk
35	17490512	Screw Thdrol 5/16-18 x 3/4
37	137040	Line Fuel 20"
38	-----	Plug Oil Drain (Order From Engine Manufacturer)
40	124028X	Bushing Snap Nyl Blk Fuel Line
44	17490412	Screw Hexwsh Thdrol 1/4-20x3/4
46	19091416	Washer 9/32 X 7/8 X 16ga
62	10040500	Washer Lock Hvy Hlcl Spr 5/16
72	71070512	Screw Hexhd Cap 5/16-18x3/4
78	17490620	Screw Thdrol 3/8-16x1-1/4 Tytt
81	128861	Nut Flange 1/4-20 Starter Nut

**NOTE:** All component dimensions given in U.S. inches  
1 inch = 25.4 mm

# REPAIR PARTS

TRACTOR - - MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

## LIFT



# REPAIR PARTS

## TRACTOR - - MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

### LIFT

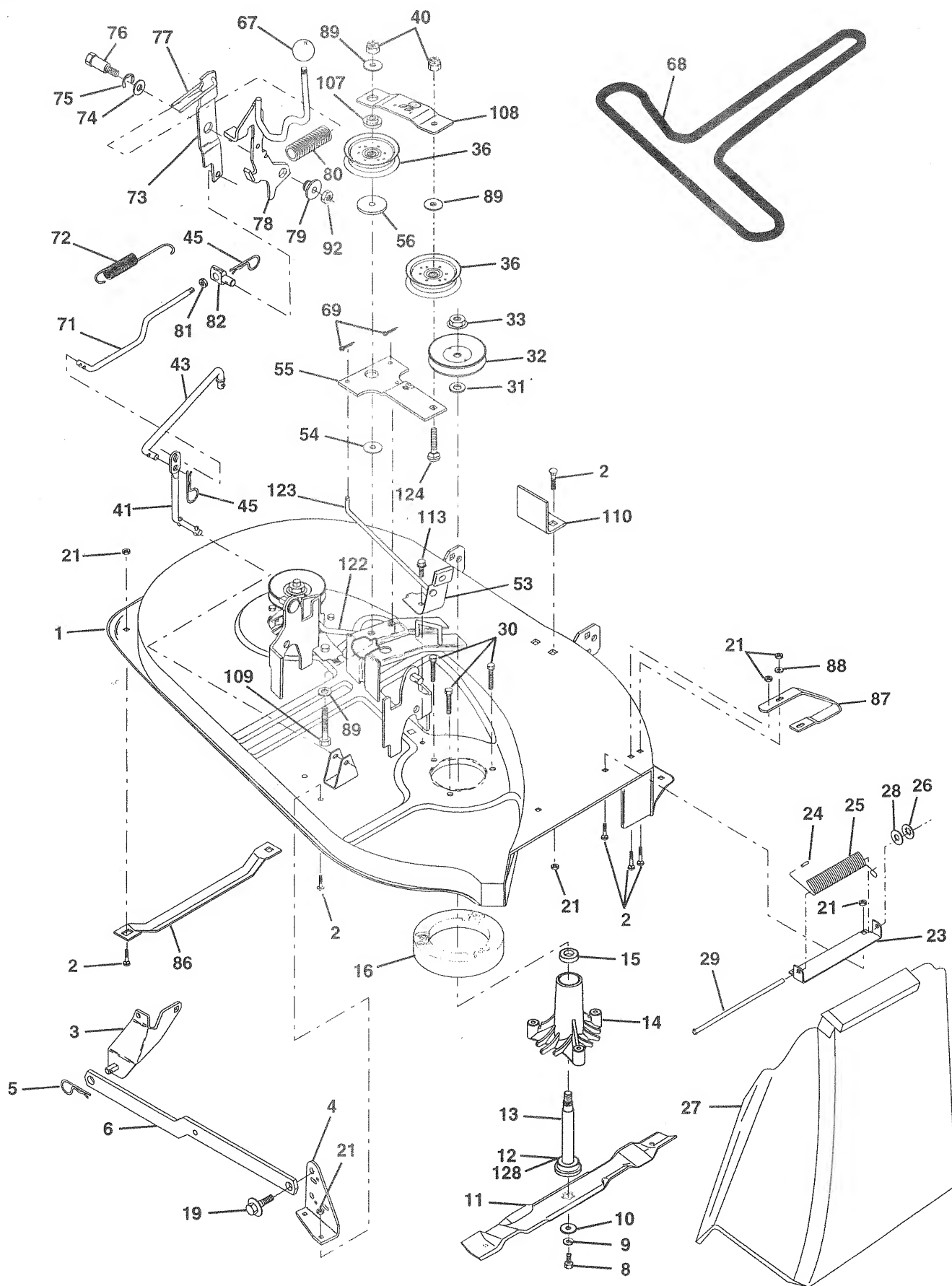
KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	159460	Rod Asm. Lever
2	159471	Shaft Asm. Lift
3	105767X	Pin Groove
4	12000002	E Ring #5133-62
5	19211621	Washer 21/32 x 1 x 21 Ga.
6	120183X	Bearing Nylon
7	109413X	Grip Handle bicycle Matte
8	124526X	Button Plunger Black
10	122512X	Spring Cprsn
11	139865	Lift Asm. Link LH
12	139866	Lift Asm. Link RH
13	4939M	Retainer Spring
15	127218	Link Front
16	73350800	Nut Jam Hex 1/2-13 Unc
17	130171	Trunnion Blk Zinc
18	73800800	Nut Lock W/Wsh 1/2-13 Unc
19	139868	Arm Suspension Mower
20	3146R	Retainer Spring
31	140302	Bearing, Pvt. Lift. Spherical
32	73540600	Nut Crownlock 3/8-24

**NOTE:** All component dimensions given in U.S. inches  
1 inch = 25.4 mm

## REPAIR PARTS

**TRACTOR - - MODEL NUMBER HD12538C**

# MOWER



# REPAIR PARTS

## TRACTOR - - MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

### MOWER

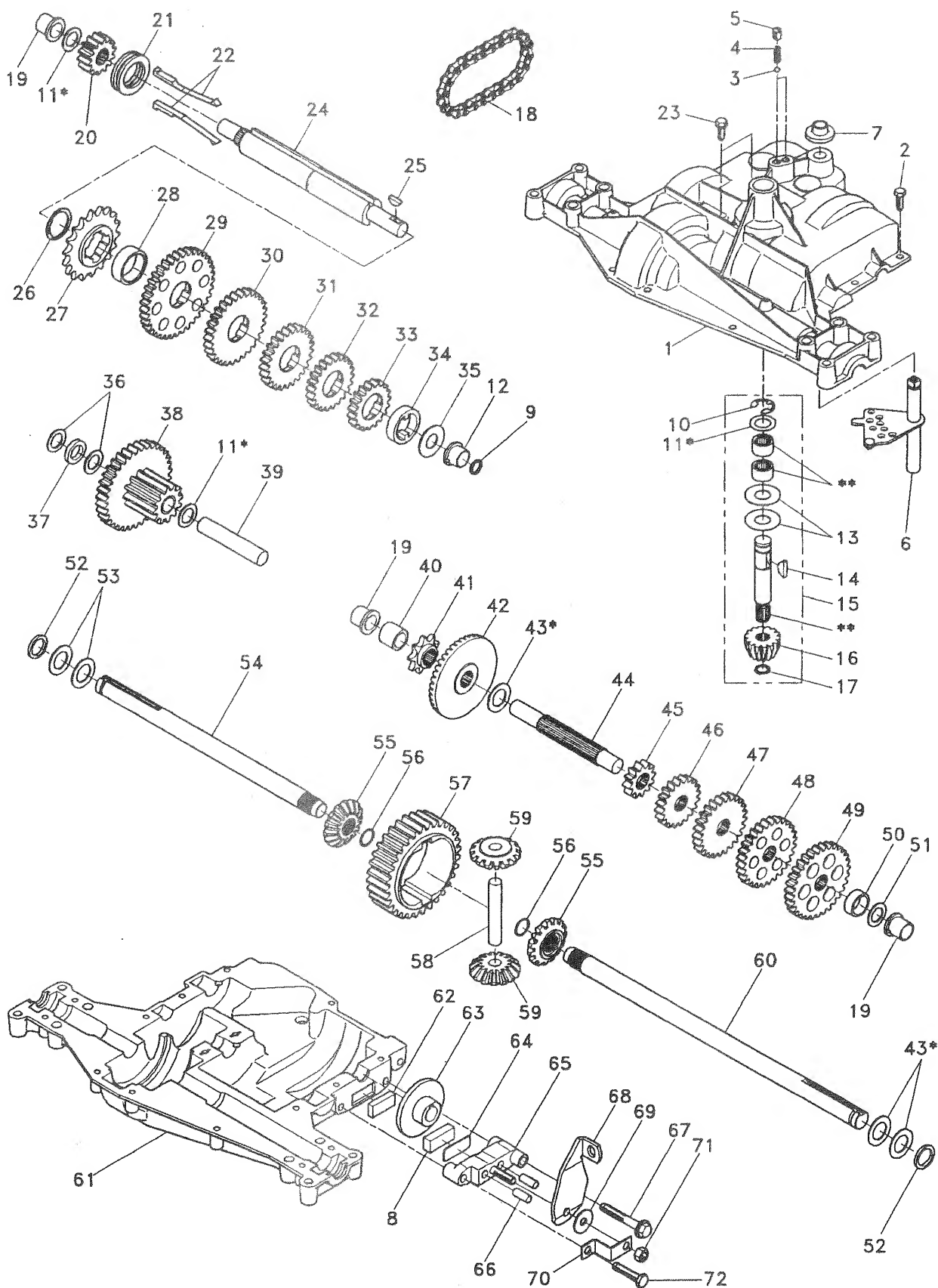
KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	KEY NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	142829	Mower Housing Assembly	56	122052X	Spacer, Retainer 1-3/4
2	72140506	Bolt, Carriage 5/16-18 x 3/4	67	106932X	Knob
3	138017	Bracket Asm. Fram Sway Bar 38/42	68	144200	Belt
4	138440	Bracket, Asm. Deck Sway Bar 38"	69	76020312	Pin, Cotter 3/32 x 3/4
5	4939M	Retainer, Spring	71	142427	Rod, Clutch, Primary
6	130832	Asm. Suspension Rear	72	131870	Spring, Return
8	850857	Bolt, Hex 3/8-24 x 1-1/4 Grade 8	73	127847	Arm, Clutch, Secondary
9	10030600	Washer, Lock, Hvy Hlcl Spring 3/8	74	121748X	Washer 25/32 x 1-5/8 x 16 Gauge
10	140296	Washer, Hard Blade Mower Vented	75	12000029	Ring, Klip
11	138497	Blade, Mower, 38"	76	128903	Bolt, Shoulder
12	129895	Ball Bearing	77	127845	Keeper, Spring
13	137645	Shaft and Bearing Assembly (Includes Key Number 15)	78	154809	Arm, Clutch, Primary
14	128774	Mandrel Housing, Vented	79	127498	Bushing
15	110485X	Ball Bearing, Mandrel	80	153701	Spring
16	140329	Stripper, Mower, Vented	81	73350600	Nut Hex Jam 3/8-16 UNC
9	132827	Bolt, Shoulder	82	142028	Trunnion Adj 94
11	73680500	Nut, Crownlock 5/16-18	86	7631J	Runner, LH
13	137607	Bracket, Mower Deflector	87	128772	Runner, RH
14	105304X	Cap, Sleeve	88	19111216	Washer 11/32 x 3/4 x 16 Gauge
5	123713X	Spring, Deflector	89	19131612	Washer 13/32 x 1 x 12 Gauge
6	110452X	Nut, Push	92	73800600	Nut Lock Hex w/Ins 3/8-16 UNC
7	106736X	Shield, Deflector	107	133502	Spacer, Retainer
8	19111016	Washer 11/32 x 3/4 x 16 Gauge	108	133503	Stiffener, Idler Arm
9	106735X	Rod, Hinge	109	74760640	Bolt, Hex Head 3/8-16 x 2-1/2
0	138776	Screw, Thdrol Hex Hd	110	142587	Upstop Deck Front 38"
1	129963	Washer, Spacer	113	17490512	Screw, Hex Head, Thd., Roll. 5/16-18 x 3/4
2	153532	Pulley, Mandrel	122	131289	Rod, Brake, LH
3	137266	Nut, Flangelock 9/16	123	131288	Rod, Brake, RH
5	131494	Pulley, Idler, Flat	124	72110614	Bolt, Carriage 3/8-16 x 1-3/4
0	73680600	Nut, Crownlock 3/8-16	128	153390	Washer Felt
1	133551	Rod, Pivot	--	130794	Mandrel Assembly (Includes Key Numbers 12-15, 17-19, 31 and 33)
3	133504	Rod, Clutch, Secondary	--	145758	Mower Deck, Complete
5	4497H	Retainer, Spring			
3	130840	Brake Assembly			
4	133943	Washer Hardened			
5	133840	Idler Arm Assembly			

**NOTE:** All component dimensions given in U.S. inches  
1 inch = 25.4 mm

# REPAIR PARTS

TRACTOR - - MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

DANA TRANSAXLE - MODEL NUMBER 4360-78





# REPAIR PARTS

## TRACTOR - - MODEL NUMBER HD12538C

### DANA TRANSAXLE - MODEL NUMBER 4360-78

KEY PART NO. NO.	DESCRIPTION
1 142671	Housing, Upper
2 2274J	Screw, Self-Tapping, Large 1/4-20 x .734
3 134400	Ball, Detent
4 105904X	Spring, Detent
5 105905X	Screw, Set
6 138235	Kit, Shifter Assembly
7 134399	Boot, Shifter
8 120951X	Puck, Friction
9 143045	Seal, Oil
10 142672	Ring, Retaining
11 134793	* Assembly, Kit, Shim .625 Shaft
12 143051	Bearing, Flange
13 120415X	Washer, Plain .632 x 1.38 x .046
14 142674	Key, Woodruff, #9
15 138234	Assembly, Kit, Input Shaft
16 110078X	Pinion, Bevel, 14 Teeth
17 105909X	Ring, Retaining
18 105910X	Chain, 24 Pitches
19 105911X	Bearing, Flange
20 142675	Gear, Spur, 14 Teeth
21 138246	Collar, Clutch
22 138236	Assembly, Kit, Clutch Keys
23 134791	Screw, Tapping w/Sealer
24 142676	Shaft, Intermediate
25 2244J	Key, Woodruff, #61
26 105916X	Ring, Retaining
27 120470X	Sprocket, 18 Teeth (Reverse)
28 110070X	Spacer
29 142677	Gear, Spur, 37 Teeth (1 <sup>st</sup> )
30 120405X	Gear, Spur, 30 Teeth (2 <sup>nd</sup> )
31 108980X	Gear, Spur, 25 Teeth (3 <sup>rd</sup> )
32 120406X	Gear, Spur, 22 Teeth (4 <sup>th</sup> )
33 134796	Gear, Spur, 19 Teeth (5 <sup>th</sup> )
34 134797	Spacer 1.133 x 1.50 x .375
35 105925X	Washer, Plain .640 x 1.37 x .061
36 2232J	Washer, Plain .632 x 1.00 x .026
37 108978X	Spacer .630 x 1.00 x .169
38 110079X	Assembly, Gear, Combination of 12 Teeth and 35 Teeth
39 124639X	Shaft, Idler
40 120472X	Spacer .635 x .875 x .755

KEY PART NO. NO.	DESCRIPTION
41 105928X	Sprocket, 9 Teeth (Reverse)
42 110084X	Gear, Bevel, 42 Teeth
43 134394	* Assembly, Kit, Shim .750 Shaft
44 120473X	Shaft, Drive
45 142678	Gear, Spur, 12 Teeth (1 <sup>st</sup> )
46 120407X	Gear, Spur, 20 Teeth (2 <sup>nd</sup> )
47 106589X	Gear, Spur, 25 Teeth (3 <sup>rd</sup> )
48 120408X	Gear, Spur, 28 Teeth (4 <sup>th</sup> )
49 105937X	Gear, Spur, 31 Teeth (5 <sup>th</sup> )
50 105936X	Spacer .781 x 1.00 x .375
51 2226J	Washer, Plain .632 x 1.00 x .060
52 134401	Washer, Neoprene
53 2264J	Washer, Plain .758 x 1.25 x .031
54 120474X	Axle, L.H.
55 110081X	Gear, Miter, 15 Teeth
56 105941X	Ring, Retaining
57 110071X	Gear, Spur, 32 Teeth
58 120952X	Shaft, Cross
59 110082X	Gear, Miter, 15 Teeth
60 120475X	Axle, R.H.
61 142680	Housing, Lower
62 120961X	Puck, Friction
63 7294J	Disc, Brake
64 108989X	Spacer
65 120953X	Jaw, Brake
66 120954X	Pin, Dowel
67 134799	Screw, Self-Tapping, Large 5/16-18 x 2.25
68 138244	Lever, Actuating
69 108996X	Washer, Plain .321 x 1.00 x .055
70 120956X	Bracket, Anti-Rotation
71 73810500	Locknut 5/16-24
72 106596X	Screw, Self-Tapping, Large 5/16-18 x 1.44
73 120416X	Grease

\* Use in combinations to maintain proper clearances

\*\* Order Key No. 15

**NOTE:** All component dimensions given in U.S. inches  
1 inch = 25.4 mm

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## SERVICE NOTES

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# SERVICE NOTES

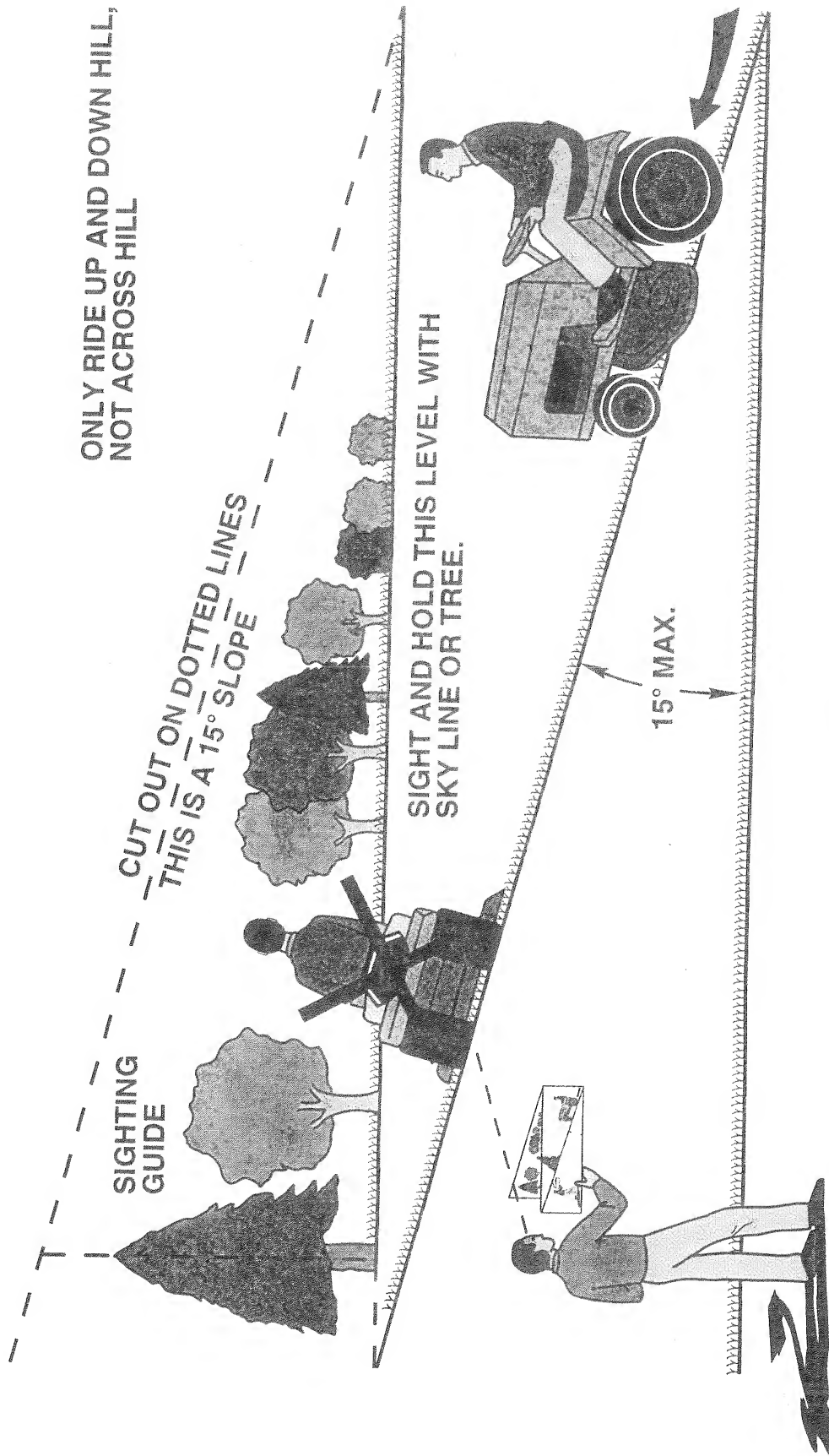
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# SERVICE NOTES

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# SUGGESTED GUIDE FOR SIGHTING SLOPES FOR SAFE OPERATION



 Operate your Tractor up and down the face of slopes (not greater than 15°), never across the face. Make turns gradually to prevent tipping or loss of control. Exercise extreme caution when changing direction on slopes.

**WEED EATER®** *VIP™*